THE LITERARY GAZETTE:

Journal of the Belles Lettres, Arts, Sciences, &c.

No. 1147.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 12, 1839.

PRICE 8d.

REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

The Art of Deer-Stalking. By William Scrope, Esq. Large 8vo. pp. 436. London, 1839.

HAPPy the man who is competent to review this volume; for he must have seen and enjoyed some of the things of which it gives so vivid a description; he must have inspired the invigorating breath of the Highland hills; he must have looked around on the glo-rious and ever-varying prospects which they present; he must have felt his limbs strengthening day after day, and the languors of the south or the capital forced to yield to the bracing air and exercise of the mountains; he must have become familiar with the whirr of the grouse, the haunts of the blackcock, the strong spring of the Alpine hare, and the bare summit seat of the ptarmigan; he must have climbed the highest steep where the eagle soared, and where solid oceans of gneiss, porphyry, or granite saluted his eye on every side, as far as his horizon ranged; he must have witnessed the gentle roe leap, startled from its couch, and the red deer rush like an avalanche through the rocky pass; he must have partaken of the hospitality of these regions, where the native heart is a contrast to the stony soil, and, from the peasant to the peer, the stranger is welcomed with the best the boothy can afford, and the utmost enjoyments which the castled abode of refined tastes, cultivated minds, and noble fortunes, can supply.

Hence health of body and vigour of mind ; health before which Bihin, the giant, might quail, and vigour enough to sustain the Premier through all the toils of the approaching session. We fear the noble lord had no opportunity to lay it in; but he may, possibly, have a portion of it near his official hand, at least if we can depend on the sporting accounts of the

last season in the north.

But why should we endeavour to imitate the style in which Mr. Scrope has clothed his living sketches; he speaks of his experience as of past years, but he writes of them as freshly and passionately as if they were of yesterday—as if he had just returned from the chase, and was recounting its trophies over the first circle of claret in lodge or hall. Let us, therefore,

turn to him.

"'Shall (he begins) a poaching, hunting, hawking 'squire, presume to trespass on the fields of literature?' These words, or others of similar import, I remember to have encountered in one of our most distinguished reviews. They ring still in my ears, and fill me with apprehension as it is; but they would alarm me much more if I had attempted to put my foot within the sacred enclosures alluded to. These are too full of spring-traps for my ambition, and I see 'this is to give notice' written in very legible characters, and take warning accordingly. Literature!—Heaven help us! far from it; I have no such presumption; I have merely attempted to describe a very interesting pursuit as nearly as possible in the style and spirit in which I have always seen it carried on. Ten years' successful practice in the forest of Atholi have enabled me to enter

and, indeed, makes them appear wholly insig-uantonness and caprice, and I am not able to nificant, no one, who has been initiated in it, account satisfactorily for their disappearance. will attempt to deny. The beautiful motions The new horns which deer acquire annually of the deer, his picturesque and noble appear- are covered with a thick sort of leaden-coloured ance, his sagacity, and the skilful generalship skin, which remains on them till the deer are which can alone ensure success in the pursuit in good condition: it then begins to fall off, of him, keep the mind in a constant state of and, for a short space, hangs in shreds, ragged pleasurable excitement.

all the various turns and accidents of the chase they have shaken off this skin, which is called sport, since a long catalogue of deer, killed in clean horns; and, as these deer are in the best some striking or unusual incident, would only sportsman." be a tedious repetition of events similar to each other. In practice, however, I did my best, as the amours of these noble animals. fine venison was always in request. If my success was occasionally very considerable, it The harts are heard roaring all over the forest, must be recollected that the deer were nume- and are engaged in savage conflicts with each rous, and that I was assisted by clever scouts. other, which sometimes terminates fatally. The being my own stalker, also, was an advan- When a master hart has collected a number of tage that long practice enabled me to profit hinds, another will endeavour to take them from: no one, I think, can make the best of from him: they fight, till one of them, feeling events when his movements are controlled by others, and are a mystery to himself."

independence in the sports of the field as in the gitive with the points of his horns, the animal,

or missed through the want of it.

agreeable manner; and we pick out a few of tinues a considerable time; and nothing can be the most curious particulars. The question of more entertaining than to witness, as I have horns will be read with interest even by inha- often done, the varied success and address of bitants of London, who, notwithstanding steam- the combatants. It is a sort of wild just, in the

purple heaths of Scotia.

the beginning of June; but deer of a year old terminates with the effect of the horn of Astolfo. will carry them till August or September; In solitary encounters, there being no hinds to these new horns are very sensitive, and the take the alarm, the harts are so occupied, and harts at this time avoid bringing them into possessed with such fury, that they may be collision with any substance. When they occasionally approached in a manuer that it fight, they rear themselves upon their hind would be vain to attempt at any other time. legs, and spar with their fore feet, keeping From the summit of a mountain, in Atholl back their heads. They carry their horns just forest, I once saw two harts in fierce conas long as the hind carries her fawn, which is tention, in a mossy part lower down the hill. eight months. They are not always shed at I came into sight at once, not expecting to see the same time, but one of them occasionally deer in the situation in which these happened drops a day or two after the other. I myself to be. I could neither advance straight forhave seldom found any other than single horns ward nor retreat without danger of giving the in the mosses of the forest, It is a remarkable alarm. One possibility alone was open to me; fact, however, that the number which are picked this was to get into the glen to their right, up in any forest bears no proportion to those when I should be entirely hidden from their which are shed; and this cannot arise from view, and then come up, concealed by the hill, their being overlooked, for they are a valuable as nearly opposite to them as possible. I was perquisite to the keepers, and there is no part certainly a very considerable distance to the of the forest that is not traversed by them in north of them, but my position was so bad that the course of the season. What, then, becomes I looked upon my chance as a mere nothing. of them? Hinds have been seen to eat them: I lay down, however, flat on my back, among one will consume a part, and, when she drops the rugged and loose stones of Cairn-marnac, it, it will be taken up and gnawed by the with a rifle in my hand; Thomas Jamieson, others. The late Duke of Atholl, indeed, once with the other rifles, placed himself behind me found a dead hind which had been choked by a in the same uncomfortable position. We had the forest of Atholi have enabled me to enter part of the horn, that remained sticking in its a full view of the deer for some time, so that into all the details that are connected with throat. It is not, however, credible that all with their ordinary vigilance they would un-

deer-stalking. That it is a chase which throws those which are missing are disposed of in this all our other field-sports far in the back-ground, way; they rather seem to be thus eaten from and broken; but they remove it as quickly as "I have attempted also to illustrate all the they can, by raking their antiers in the roots of essential points that occur in stalking deer, the heather, or in such branches of shrubs as both in slow and quick time, and to describe they can find adapted to the purpose. When drawn from actual experience. This, I thought, the velvet, and which disappears in the months could be best done by the recital of moderate of August and September, they are said to have succession on the same day, unaccompanied by condition, they are the particular object of the

From this subject we may naturally pass to

"This is a very wild and picturesque season. himself worsted, will run in circles round the hinds, being unwilling to leave them: the This is most true, and there is nothing like other pursues; and, when he touches the fubusiness of life. Many a fair chance is stopped thus gored, either bounds suddenly on one side, and then turns and faces him, or will dash off In the earlier chapters, the natural history to the right or the left, and at once give up the and habits of the red deer are described in an contest. The conflict, however, generally coners, have never seen the sparkling isles and presence of the dames who, as of old, bestowed their favours on the most valiant. "The shedding of the horns continues till times it is a combat à l'outrance, but it often

doubtedly have seen us; the stones, however, occasionally from all quarters. I have said formed an uneven outline, which was in our that deer go up wind; but, by clever managefavour, and thus we did not absolutely attract their notice. Whilst the stags were fiercely engaged, we worked our way down on our backs, looking askance: when they rested for a space, and sometimes they would do so on their knees, from mere exhaustion, we moved not a limb; and in this manner we wormed ourselves gradually into the glen, not without certain uncomfortable bruises. Then, being out of sight, we sprang up, and made the best of our way to the point immediately below them; and moving cautiously up the hill, which was sufficiently steep for our purpose, we came all at once in full view of one of the combatants, who was then alone; he sprang off at full speed, but all too late for his escape, for my ball struck him dead on the spot. His antagonist, I imagine, had been beaten off. I expected to have killed them both. A conflict of this savage nature, which happened in one of the Duke of Gordon's forests, was fatal to both of the combatants. Two large harts, after a furious and deadly thrust, had entangled their horns so firmly together that they were inextricable, and the victor remained with the vanquished. In this situation they were discovered by the forester, who killed the survivor, whilst he was yet struggling to release himself from his dead antagonist. The horns remain at Gordon Castle, still locked together as they were found. Mezentius him-self never attached the dead body to the living one in a firmer manner."

The care of their young is natural and

interesting : __

"The period of gestation in a hind is eight months. She drops her fawn in high heather, where she leaves it concealed the whole of the day, and returns to it late in the evening, when she apprehends no disturbance. She makes it lie down by a pressure of her nose; and it will never stir or lift up its head the whole of the day, unless you come right upon it, as I have often done. It lies like a dog, with its nose to its tail. The hind, however, although she separates herself from the young fawn, does not lose sight of its welfare, but remains at a distance to the windward, and goes to its succour in case of an attack of the wild cat, or fox, or any other powerful vermin. I have heard Mr. John Crerer say, and it is doubtless true, that if you find a young fawn that has never followed its dam, and take it up and rub its back, and put your fingers in its mouth, it will follow you home for several miles; but if it has once followed its dam for ever so small a space before you find it, it will never follow human being. When once caught, these fawns or calves are easily made tame; and there were generally a few brought up every year by the dairy-maid at Blair. I speak of hinds only; stags soon turn vicious and unmanageable. When the calf is old enough to keep up with a herd of deer, and to take pretty good care of itself, its mother takes it off, and leads it into ground that can be travelled, without difficulty, avoiding precipitous and rocky places.

"Deer, except in certain embarrassed situations, always run up wind; and so strongly is this instinct implanted in them, that if you catch a calf, be it ever so young, and turn it down wind, it will immediately face round and go in the opposite direction. Thus they go forward over hill-tops and unexplored ground lime as the ocean. In such a place as this, the in perfect security, for they can smell the taint wild Indian might fancy himself on his own in the air at an almost incredible distance. On hunting grounds. Traverse all this desolate

ment, and employing men to give them their wind (those men being concealed from their view), they may be driven down it; and in certain cases they may easily be sent, by a side wind, towards that part of the forest which they consider as their sanctuary. to be noted, that on the hill-side the largest harts lie at the bottom of the parcel, and the smaller ones above; indeed these fine fellows seem to think themselves privileged to enjoy their ease, and impose the duty of keeping guard upon the hinds and upon their juniors. In the performance of this task the hinds are always the most vigilant, and when deer are driven they almost always take the lead. When, however, the herd is strongly beset on all sides, and great boldness and decision are required, you shall see the master hart come forward courageously, like a great leader as he is, and, with his confiding band, force his way through all obstacles. In ordinary cases, however, he is of a most ungallant and selfish disposition; for, when he apprehends danger from the rifle, he will rake away the hinds with his horns, and get in the midst of them, keeping his antlers as low as possible. There is no animal more shy or solitary by nature than the red deer. He takes the note of alarm from every living thing on the moor,—all seem to be his sentinels. The sudden start of any animal, the springing of a moor-fowl, the complaining note of a plover, or of the smallest bird in distress, will set him off in an instant. He is always most timid when he does not see his adversary, for then he suspects an ambush. If, on the contrary, he has him full in view, he is as cool and circumspect as possible : he then watches him most acutely, endeavours to dis-cover his intention, and takes the best possible method to defeat it. In this case he is never in a hurry or confused, but repeatedly stops and watches his disturber's motions; and when at length he does take his measure, it is a most decisive one: a whole herd will sometimes force their way at the very point where the drivers are the most numerous, and where there are no rifles; so that I have seen the hill-men fling their sticks at them, while they have raced away without a shot being fired."

All Mr. Scrope's statements of the habits of the deer resemble those we have so briefly quoted; and so real that we seem to partake of the scenes he paints so truly. Stories of the prodigious age of deer he appears to think no better founded than many of the superstitious legends which he also repeats from Highland authorities; and no one who has ever roamed in the dusk or darkness, amid the brawl of streams, the faithlessness of bog, the strange forms of stone rock, and precipice, can doubt but that imagination must lay a potent wand

upon the belief of a Highlander!

" And now (he says, in one of his Ossianic pictures), what do you think of this wild region? Do you not almost feel as if you were wandering in a new world? every thing bears the original impress of nature, untouched by the hand of man since its creation. That vast moor spread out below you; this mass of huge mountains heaving up their crests around you; and those peaks in the distance, faint almost as the sky itself,-give the appearance of an extent boundless and subthis account they are fond of lying in open tract, and you shall find no dwelling, nor sheep, clade in their ain hair, an' here we stand shame-corries, where the swells of winds come nor cow, nor horse, nor any thing that can faced and nakit—aweel, fan the two raes heard

remind you of domestic life; you shall hear no sound but the rushing of the torrent, or the notes of the wild animals, the natural inhabitants; you shall see only the moor-fowl and the plover flying before you from hillock to hillock, or the eagle soaring aloft with his eye to the sun, or his wings wet with mist."

And the tenant of this scene :-

"Give me the glass; I see him plainly enough: he is shot through the body, rather far behind, and cannot go far. Now one of the deer is licking his wound-now he begins to falter-now he turns aside and sends a wistful look after his companions, who are fast leaving him, happy and free as the air we breathe. He is making another effort to regain them: poor fellow! it may not be; you shall never join them more. Never again shall you roam with them over the gray mountains,—never more brave the storm together — sun your red flanks in the corrie - or go panting down to your wonted streams: 'brief has been your dwelling on the moor !" "

These are from an Englishman; a native idea f Badenoch is somewhat different : list to the down-cromb (blacksmith) of one of its villages.

" He was taxed, but in a merry mood, with many dexterous feats of poaching, and driving the duke's deer to the north, when the wind served, which he did not altogether deny. 'Well,' said Tortoise, 'take some more whisky, and a pinch of snuff from my mull; but you must not steal the duke's deer, mon.' Houte-toute! Y'ere a trou Sassnach, an the like o' ye chiels aye ca' liftin stealing, which is na joost Christian-like.' 'Well, what would you give for such bonny braes, and birks, and ivers as are in the forest of Atholl, if they could be transferred to your wild country? 'And are there na bonny braes and birks in Badenoch? Y'ere joost as bad as our minister: but fat need the man say ony thing mair about the matter, fan I tell 'im that I'll prove, frae his ain Bible, ony day he likes, that the Lios-mor, as we ca' the great garden in Gaelic, stood in its day joost far the muir o' Badenoch lys noo, an' in nae ither place aneth the sun; is no there an island in the Loch Lhinne that bears the name o' the Liosmor to this blessed day; fan I tell you that, an' that I has seen the island mysel, fa can dout my word?' 'But, Mac, the Bible says the garden was planted eastward, in ' Hoot! ay; but that disna say but the garden might be in Badenoch! for Eden is a Gaelic word for a river, an' am shure there's nae want o' them there; an, as for its bein' east o'er, that is, when Adam planted the Liosmor, he sat in a bonny bothan on a brae in Lochaber, an nae doot lukit eastwar to Badenoch, an' saw a' thing sproutin' an growin' atween im an the sun fan it cam ripplin o'er the braes frae Athole in the braw simmer mornings. 'But, Mac, the Bible further says, they took fig-leaves and made themselves aprons; you cannot say that figs ever grew in Badenoch. Hout-tout! there's naebody can tell fat grew in Badenoch i' the days of the Liosmor; an altho' nae figs grow noo, there's mony a bony fiag runs yet o'er the braes o' both Badenoch and Lochaber. It was fiag's skins, an no fig blades that they made class o'. Fing, I maun tell you, is Lochaber Gaelic for a deer to this day; a fan the auld gudeman was getting his repreef for takin' an apple frae the guidwife, a' the beasties in Liosmor cam roon them, an among the rest twa bonny raes; an fan the gudeman said, 'See how miserable we twa are left: there stands a' the bonnie beasties weel clade in their ain hair, an' here we stand shame-

that, they lap oute o' their skins, for very love | the heather; his repose was of short duration, | to their sufferin maister, as any true clansman wad do to this day. Fan the gudeman saw this, he drew ae fiag's skin on her nainsel', an the tither o'er the gudewife: noo, let me tell ye, thae ware the first kilts in the world.' 'By this account, Mac, our first parents spoke Gaelic.' 'An' fat ither had they to spake, tell me? Our minister says they spoke Hebrew; and fats Hebrew but Gaelic, the warst o' Gaelic, let alane Welsh Gaelic.' 'Well done, Mac; success to you and your Gaelic!' 'Success to me an my Gaelic! I tell ye that the Hieland Society, or Gaelic Society, or a' the societies in the world, canna ca' again my Gaelic! nor the name or origin o' the first dress worn by man, for__

' Ere the laird cardit or the lady span, In flag's skins their hale race r

' We would require proof for this, Mac.' 'Proof, mon! disna your Bible say, 'cursed is the ground for Adam's sake,' an that curse lies on Badenoch an Lochaber to this day; for if there be in all Scotland a mair blastit poverty-stricken part than 'ither o' the twa, may Themus Macna-Toishach's auld een never see it! an for the truth o' fat I'm saying, its joost as true as any story of the kind that's been tauld this mony a day; let them contradic me fa can.' Thus the Gown-cromb's wit at length fairly got the better of his patriotism."

We must not omit an example of the legend-

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"The belief in 'spirits of a limited power and subordinate nature' dwelling amidst woods and mountains is, as you know, common to all nations, and more particularly to such as are of a wild and romantic character. The lonely man who journeys over the vast uninhabited space, feels himself almost unconnected with human society; and when darkness falls upon the moor. objects of dubious form loom around him and disturb his imagination. Thus traditions of witches and fairies are numerous in the forest of Gawick; one at least I will give you, as a specimen of their character. Murdoch, a noted deer-stalker, went at sunrise into the forest, and discovering some deer at a distance, he stalked till he came pretty near them, but not quite within shot. On looking over a knoll he was astonished at seeing a number of little neat women dressed in green, in the act of milking the hinds. These he knew at once to be fairies: one of them had a hank of green yarn thrown over her shoulder, and the hind she was milking made a grap at the yarn with her mouth and swallowed it. The irritable little fairy struck the hind with the band with which she had tied its hind legs, saying at the same time, ' May a dart from Murdoch's quiver pierce your side before night!' for the fairies, it seems, were well apprised of Murdoch's skill in deer-killing. In the course of the day he killed a hind, and in taking out the entrails he found the identical green hank that he saw the deer swallow in the morning. This hank, it is said, was preserved for a long period, as a testimony of the occurrence. This was not our deer-stalker's only adventure; for upon another occasion, in traversing the forest, he got within shot of a hind on the hill called the Doune, and took aim; but when about to fire, it was transformed into a young woman; he immediately took down his gun, and again it became a deer; he took aim again, and anon it was a woman; but on lowering his rifle it became a deer a second time. At length he fired, and the animal fell in the actual shape of a deer. No sooner had he killed it than he felt overpowered with sleep; and hav-

for in a few minutes a loud cry was thundered in his ear, saying, 'Murdoch, Murdoch! you have this day slain the only maid in Doune.' Upon which Murdoch started up and relinquished his spoil, saying, 'If I have killed her you may eat her:' he then immediately quitted the forest as fast as his legs could carry him. This man was commonly called Munack Mach-Jan, or Murdoch the son of John; his real name, however, was Macpherson. He had a son who took orders, and obtained a living in Ireland; and it is said that the late celebrated R. B. Sheridan was descended from one of his daughters. The most extraordinary superstition prevalent was that of the Liannan-Spell, or fairy sweethearts; and all inveterate deerstalkers, who remained for nights, and even weeks, in the mountains, were understood to have formed such connexions. In these cases danger from the machinations of the fairy mistress.'

Perhaps they were not always fairies?

Short accounts of the deer-forests of the north, such as Blair Atholl, Lord Glenlyon's; the Black Mount, the Marquess of Breadal-bane's; Glenartney, Lord Willoughby d'Eresby's; Braemar, the Earl of Fife's, &c. &c., form a very suitable appendage to the history of the sports which they so delightfully furnish. The embellishments, too, after Landseer and Mr. Scrope himself, are exceedingly characteristic and pleasing. And then there is poetry by Monk Lewis, T. H. Liddell, and Disraeli; a curious notice of the very curious Black Book of the Campbells, at Taymouth Castle; and other accessories, which render the volume Few persons could have written such a book, for it is replete with classic literature and elegant taste, as well as with the hardy exploits of the gallant deer-stalker. What he should be in the physical way is so amusingly described the full-length portrait :-

" After all, a man should be trained in the way he should go as soon as he is out of petticoats; if not, the symmetry of the Antinous will avail him nought. I have not the slightest doubt, indeed, but that Pan would have caught Daphne-much sooner than Apollo. He would Daphne-much sooner than Apparolate have made a much better run, and probably a bog earth rubbed scientifically better thing of it altogether. Now this is all of his head, would be an absolute Ulysses on the moor, and (cateris paribus) perfectly should not only be able to run like an antelope, and breathe like the trade winds, but should also be enriched with various other undeniable qualifications. As, for instance, he should be able to run in a stooping position, at a grey-hound pace, with his back parallel to the ground, and his face within an inch of it, for miles together. He should take a singular pleasure in threading the seams of a bog, or in gliding down a burn, ventre à terre, like that insinuating animal the eel,—accomplished he should be in skilfully squeezing his clothes after this operation, to make all comfortable. Strong and pliant in the ankle, he should most indubitably be; since in running swiftly down precipices, picturesquely adorned with sharpedged, angular, vindictive stones, his feet will unadvisedly get into awkward cavities, and curious positions :- thus, if his legs are devoid of the faculty of breaking, so much the better .he has an evident advantage over the fragile man. He should rejoice in wading through torrents, and be able to stand firmly on water-

current; or if by fickle fortune the waves should be too powerful for him, when he loses his balance, and goes floating away upon his back (for if he has any tact, or sense of the picturesque, it is presumed he will fall back-wards), he should raise his rifle aloft in the air, Marmion fashion, lest his powder should get wet, and his day's sport come suddenly to an end. A few weeks' practice in the Tilt will make him quite au fait at this. We would recommend him to try the thing in a speat, during a refreshing north wind, which is adverse to deer-stalking; thus no day will be lost pending his education. To swim he should not be able, because there would be no merit in saving himself by such a paltry subterfuge; neither should he permit himself to be drowned, because we have an affection for him, and moreover it is very cowardly to die. As for sleep, he should be almost a stranger to it, activity being the the natural wife was considered to be in great great requisite; and if a man gets into the slothful habit of lying a-bed for five or six hours at a time, I should be glad to know what he is fit for in any other situation? Lest, however, we should be thought too niggardly in this matter, we will allow him to doze occasionally from about midnight till half-past three in the morning. Our man is thus properly refreshed, and we retain our character for liberality. Steady, very steady, should his hand be, and at times wholly withont a pulse. Hyacinthine curls are a very graceful ornament to the head, and, accordingly, they have been poetically treated of; but we value not grace in our shooting-jacket, and infinitely prefer seeing our man, like Dante's Frati, 'che non hanno coperchio piloso al capo;' because the greater the distance from the eye altogether one of varied attraction and interest. to the extreme point of the head, so much the quicker will the deer discover their enemy, than he will discover them. His pinnacle or predominant, therefore, should not be orna-mented with a high finial or tuft. Indeed, the less hair he has upon it the better. It is lain the following extract, that, wishing the gods mentable to think that there are so few people had made us many such men, we conclude with who will take disinterested advice upon this or any other subject; but, without pressing the affair disagreeably, I leave it to a deer-stalker's own good sense to consider whether it would not be infinitely better for him to shave the crown of his head at once, than to run the risk of losing a single shot during the entire season. A man so shorn, with the addition of a little invincible."

> Rob of the Bowl; a Romance of the Days of Charles II. By J. P. Kennedy. 3 vols.

12mo. London, 1839. Bentley. THE period of the second Charles is a fit and good period for romance, as it is near enough to our own time to create a real interest, and remote enough to allow the skilful writer to invest it with such charms as imagination may suggest. In the present instance, too, the effects are aided by the scene being laid in America, where the ancient capital of Maryland opens the descriptions; and the characters are introduced in distinct and clever relief. The British settlers, and a little of their wild neighbours of the western woods, are brought into action in a vivid manner; and altogether we have as stirring a story as the lovers of fiction founded on, or connected with, actual circumstances, could desire. Among the retainers of the Lord Baron of Baltimore, absolute Proprietary of Baltimore and Avalon, is a Captain Jasper ing rolled himself in his plaid, he lay down on worn stones, unconscious of the action of the Dauntrees, who plays a conspicuous part in

these pages, and would be no bad companion to Dugald Dalgetty, of famous memory. Rob of the Bowl himself is very original; and the interest attached to a haunted house in his vicinage, fills up those mysteries which render tales of the kind popular with the great majority of readers.

From such a production it is scarcely possible to extract a suitable specimen without trenching upon the author's secrets, and our own page, much more than would be agreeable to his or our readers. We shall, therefore, select the portrait of the heroine, the youngest daughter of the worshipful Anthony Warden, collector of the customs at St. Mary's, as an example of the talent and style which belong to

the whole :-

"Of the beauty of the Rose of St. Mary's (for so contemporaries were wont to designate her) tradition speaks with a poetical fervour. I have heard it said that Maryland, far-famed for lovely women, hath not since had a fairer daughter. The beauty which lives in expression was eminently hers; that beauty which is scarcely to be caught by the painter, —which, changeful as the surface of the welling fountain, where all the fresh images of nature are for ever shifting and sparkling with the glories of the mirror, defies the limner's skill. In stature she was neither short nor tall, but distinguished by a form of admirable symmetry, both for grace and activity. Her features, it is scarce necessary to say, were regular, -but not absolutely so; for, I know not why, perfect tired men. regularity is a hinderance to expression. Eyes of dark hazel, with long lashes that gave, by turns, a pensive and playful light to her face, serving, at will, to curtain from the world the thoughts which otherwise would have been read by friend and foe; hair of a rich brown, glossy, and, in some lights, even like the raven's wing,-ample in volume, and turning her brow and shoulders almost into marble by the contrast; a complexion of spotless, healthful white and red; a light, elastic step, responding to the gaiety of her heart; a voice melodious and clear, gentle in its tones, and various in its modulation, according to the feeling it uttered; these constituted no inconsiderable items in the inventory of her perfections. Her spirit was blithe, affectionate, and quick in its sympathies; her ear credulous to believe what was good, and slow to take an evil report. The innocence of her thoughts kindled a habitual light upon her countenance, which was only dimmed when the rough handling by fortune of friend or kinsman was recounted to her, and brought forth the ready tear, - for that was ever as ready as her smile."

The various adventures belong to the school of Scott, and remind us of the "Monastery" and the "Pirate." After one of these, the return home of the party offers us a separable

quotation : _

" As the captain continued to urge his journey, which he did with the glee that waits upon a safe deliverance from an exploit of hazard, he turned his face upwards to the bright orb which threw a cheerful light over the scenery of the road-side, and in the distance flung a reflection, as of burnished silver, over the broad surface of St. Mary's river, as seen from the height which the travellers were now destending. Not more than two miles of their route remained to be achieved, when the captain broke forth with an old song of that day, in a voice which would not have discredited a professor:

Sing, Hic and hoc sumus nocturno, Huzza for the jolly old moon!"

'Why, Garret, vintner, art asleep, man?' in-quired the captain. 'Why dost thou not join in the burden?' 'To your hand, captain,' exclaimed Weasel, rousing himself and piping forth the chorus

' Hic and hoc sumus nocturno, Huzza for the jolly old moon!'

which he did not fail to repeat at the top of his voice at each return. Dauntrees proceeded :

She trails a royal following, And a merry mad court doth keep, With her chirping boys that walk in the shade, And wake when the bailiff's aleep. Sing, Hie and hoe aumus nocturno, Huzza for the jolly old moon! Master owl he is her chancellor, And the bat is his serving-man;
They tell no tales of what they see,
But wink when we turn up the can.
Sing, Hic and hoc sumus nocturno,
Huzza for the jolly old moon! Her chorister is Goodman Frog, With a glow-worm for his link; And all who would make court to Are fain, good faith! to drink.
Sing, Hic and hoc sumus nocturno,
Huzza for the jolly old moon!'

This ditty was scarcely concluded _ for it was spun out with several noisy repetitions of the chorus-before the troop reined up at the gate of the fort. The drowsy sentinel undid the bolt at the captain's summons, and in a very short space the wearied adventurers were stretched in the enjoyment of that most satisfactory of physical comforts, the deep sleep of

We are sorry that we cannot do more for the bucaniers, and other well-drawn personages, who figure in this work; but in truth, extract is impossible, and we must dismiss it with the commendations we have bestowed.

Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum; or, the Trees and Shrubs of Britain, Native and Foreign, Hardy and Half-Hardy, Pictorially and Botanically Delineated, and Scientifically and Popularly Described; with their Propagation, Culture, Management, Uses, &c. J. C. Loudon, F.L. and H.S., &c. 8 vols. 8vo. Illustrated with above 2500 Engravings, and about 400 8vo. and 4to. Plates. London, 1838. Longman and Co.

THE great mass of information respecting trees and shrubs, collected together in these volumes, and the numerous and beautifully executed wood engravings, render this work one of great interest, not only to the botanist and practical cultivator, but the amateur and general reader. Common as trees are, and continually as we see them before our eyes, there are few subjects on which general readers are worse informed. The hard names and cramped phrases of the botanist seem to close the door against all passing intruders, who wish merely to take a glimpse of the objects of his science; and few persons who have not studied botany have an dea of there being more than half-a-dozen or a dozen different kinds of trees, even in the most extensive plantations. All these persons will be delighted with Mr. Loudon's Arboretum; as in the popular part of the work, which occupies nearly two-thirds of the whole, he describes so many different and beautiful trees growing in the immediate neighbourhood of London, as must give a great additional interest to every morning drive taken two or three miles out of town, or even round the Regent's Park.

We shall now offer a few extracts, taken from the different portions of the work. It must be observed that Mr. Loudon not only gives de-

fruit; and, as many of our readers may remember Mr. James's amusing description, in one of his late works, of the cake called la galette, which is made of chestnut flour, we shall quote Mr. Loudon's description of the uses to which the fruit of the chestnut is applied in the south of Europe.

"The principal countries where the chestnut is employed as an important article of food are, the South of France and the North of Italy, where it serves, in a great measure, as a substitute for both the bread and potatoes of more northern nations. In these countries it be-comes a matter of importance to preserve the chestnuts during winter; and, accordingly, great care is taken in gathering, keeping, and drying them, so as to ensure a constant supply. When the chestnuts are ripe, those that are to be preserved are collected every day from the ground on which they have fallen from the tree, and spread out in a dry airy place, till the whole is gathered together. But, as it is often a considerable time before the chestnuts are all ripe enough to fall from the tree, if the season he so far advanced as to be in danger of snow or heavy rains, after the fallen chestnuts have been collected and set on one side for drying, the tree is beaten with long poles, to knock off the remaining fruit. This operation is called gauler les châtaignes. But the fruit thus collected is only considered fit for immediate use; and the greater part of it is carried to the local market, or sent to Paris. The husks of the chestnuts beaten off the trees being generally attached to the nuts, they are trodden off by peasants furnished with heavy sabots, when the nuts are wanted for immediate use; but, when the chestnuts are to be preserved a few months, they are generally kept in their husks in heaps in the open air, or in barrels of sand, which are actually sometimes sprinkled with water in very dry seasons, in order to preserve the full and plump appearance of the nuts. One of the modes of drying chestnuts, in order to preserve them for several years, is, to place those which have been collected from the ground on coarse riddles, sieves, or hurdles, in a dry airy place, and after-wards to expose them to the sun; or to boil them for a quarter of an hour, and then dry them in an oven. In Simoasin and Périgord, where the chestnut flour is used for making the kind of cake called la galette, and the thick porridge called la polenta, which are the common food of the peasantry, the chestnuts are dried with smoke. A thin layer of nuts, which have been deprived of their outer husks, is laid on a kind of kiln pierced with holes; and a fire is made below with the husks, and part of the wood of the tree, which is only permitted to smoulder, and is not suffered to burst into a flame. In a short time the chestnuts begin to sweat; that is, their superabundant moisture oozes out through their skins. The fire is then immediately extinguished, and the chestnuts are suffered to become quite cold. They are then thrown on one side, and a fresh layer is spread out, and subjected to the same process. When a sufficient quantity of chestnuts is thus prepared, to cover the floor of the kiln, at least one foot deep, they are laid upon it, and a gentle fire is made below, which is gradually augmented during two or three days, and is then continued during nine or ten days, the chestnuts being regularly turned, like malt, till the nuts part readily from their skins: they are then put into sacks, which have been previously wet, and thrashed with sticks, or rubbed upon a large bench or scriptions, &c. of his trees, and their uses for with sticks, or rubbed upon a large bench or timber, but he details the uses made of their table; after which they are winnowed, and are

[&]quot;The moon, the moon, the jolly moon, And a jolly old queen is she! She hath stroll'd o'n ights this thousand year, With ever the best of sompany.

for a paved floor) must be frequently swept, to clear it from the soot. The dust which escapes from the chestnuts, when they are winnowed, together with the broken nuts, are carefully preserved for feeding cattle, and are called in France biscat. The most general modes of cooking chestnuts in France are, boiling them in water, either simply, with a little salt, or with leaves of celery, sage, or any herbs that may be approved of, to give them a flavour; and roasting them, either in hot ashes, or in a coffee-roaster. They are also occasionally roasted before the fire, or on a shovel, as in England, but, when thus prepared, they are thought not so good. In whatever way the chestnuts are roasted, the French cooks always slit the skin of all except one; and when that cracks and flies off they know that the rest are done. Chestnut flour is kept in casks, or in earthen bottles well corked: and it will remain good for years. La galette is a species of thick flat cake, which is made without yeast, and baked on a kind of girdle, or iron plate, or on a hot flat stone. It is generally mixed with milk and a little salt, and is sometimes made richer by the addition of eggs and butter; and sometimes, when baked, it is covered with a rich custard before serving. La polenta is made by boiling the chestnut flour in water or milk, and continually stirring it, till it has become quite thick, and will no longer stick to the fingers. When made with water, it is frequently eaten with milk in the manner that oatmeal porridge is in Scotland. Besides these modes of dressing chestnuts, which are common in Italy as well as in France, many others might be mentioned; particularly a kind of bouilli, called châtiana, which is made by boiling the entire chestnuts, after they have been dried and freed from their skins, in water, with a little salt, till they become soft, and then breaking and mixing them together like mashed potatoes; and a sweetmeat called marrons glaces, which is made by dipping the marrons into clarified sugar, and then drying them, and which is common in the confectioners' shops in Paris."

Every one has heard of Venice turpentine, and may know that it is procured from the larch, but the following description of the mode of procuring it will, probably, be new to our

"To obtain the turpentine, trees are chosen which are neither too young nor too old; as only full-grown trees, not yet in a state of decay, will yield good turpentine. When the sap begins to be in motion, in spring, if a few drops of turpentine are seen exuding from the bark, it is a proof that the tree is full of resinous juice; and, if the trunks were split, there would be found, five inches or six inches from the heart of the tree, and eight inches or ten inches from the bark, several dépôts of liquid resin, contained in cavities which are sometimes one inch thick, three inches or four inches broad, and as much in height. In a trunk of forty feet in length, as many as six of these large reservoirs of liquid resin have been found, and several smaller ones. When the wood of a tree cut down in this state is sawed up, a cut with a hatchet will make the turpentine flow abundantly; and the sawyers often find the movement of the saw impeded by it. Young and vigorous larches have none of these reservoirs, which appear not to be formed till the tree has attained its full growth; and it is,

hurdles, if these have been used as a substitute augers nearly an inch in diameter, with which they pierce the full-grown larches in dif- time of planting, will be a forest of timber, fit ferent places, beginning at three feet or four feet from the ground, and mounting gradually to ten feet or twelve feet. They choose, generally, the south side of the tree, and, when practicable, the knots formed by branches which have been broken or cut off, and through which the turpentine is seen exuding naturally. The holes are always made in a slanting direction, in order that the turpentine may flow out of them more freely; and care is always taken not to penetrate to the centre of the tree. To these holes are fixed gutters made of larch wood, which are one inch and a half wide, and from fifteen inches to twenty inches long. One of the ends of each gutter terminates in a peg, through the centre of which is bored a hole about one inch and a half in diameter. This end of the gutter is forced into the hole made in the tree, and the other end is led into a small bucket, or trough, which receives the turpentine. In the countries where larches are abundant, particularly in the Brianconnais and the Vallois, may be seen, in the fine weather of spring, a prodigious quantity of little buckets at the foot of the trees, each attached to a tree by a slender tube, or gutter, through which the clear limpid turpentine, glittering in the sun, trickles down, and soon fills the bucket; while, every morning and evening, the peasants hasten from tree to tree, examining their buckets, taking away, or emptying those that are full, and replacing them with empty ones. This harvest, if so it may be called, continues from May till September; and the turpentine requires no other preparation, to render it fit for sale, than straining it through a coarse hair-cloth, to free it from leaves, or any other accidental impurities that may have fallen into it. When a hole made in a tree does not produce turpentine, or when the turpentine ceases to flow, the hole is stopped with a peg, and not opened for a fortnight or three weeks. When these holes are reopened, the turpentine is generally found to flow from them in greater abundance than from the other holes in the tree, and they continue to give still more and more, till the flow of the sap is stopped in autumn by the cold. A full-grown healthy larch, if tapped when of the proper age, will yield seven or eight pound of turpentine every year, for forty or fifty years."

With regard to the profit to be obtained by planting, there is much interesting information in this work, which should be read attentively by every landed proprietor. The love of one's country, and the wish of upholding England as monarch of the seas, are strong motives for planting oaks for the use of the navy; but the length of time which must elapse before the trees can be cut down, confines this kind of planting to the rich magnates of the land. No such objection holds good against the larch. An oak tree is not fit for naval timber till it is from ninety to a hundred and fifty years old; and it has been calculated that it requires the produce of fifty acres to build one 74-gun ship; but the quick growth of the larch prevents the necessity of waiting thus long for the return of capital, and renders it the most eligible of all timber trees for planting, where the proprietor possesses land in a suitable situation.

"There is no name (says Mr. Loudon) that stands so high, and so deservedly high, in the

then ready for the mill. During the process in a fit condition for being pierced for the exormal driving, the fire is watched night and day; and the under side of the floor of the kiln (or valley of St. Martin, in the Pays de Vaud, use mountain ground solely with the larch, which, in the course of seventy-two years from the for the building of the largest class of ships in her majesty's navy. Before it is cut down for this purpose, it will have been thinned out to about 400 trees per acre. Each tree will contain at the least 50 cubic feet, or one load of timber; which, at the low price of one shilling per cubic foot (only one half of its present value), will give 1000l. per acre, or, in all, a sum of 6,500,000% sterling !! Besides this, there will have been a return of 7l. per acre from the thin-nings, after deducting all expense of thinning and the original outlay of planting. still, the land on which the larch is planted is not worth above from ninepence to a shilling per acre. After the thinning of the first thirty years, the larch will make it worth at least ten shillings an acre, by the improvement of the pasturage, upon which cattle can be kept summer and winter.

Indeed, there is no part of the Arboretum Britannicum more interesting, in a national point of view, than the facts which Mr. Loudon has brought together respecting the rapid growth of the larch, on soil fit for little else than planting; the durability of its timber, which is always greatest on such soils, and the numerous uses to which it is applicable both in civil and naval architecture. Mr. Loudon has made no imaginary calculations, but has drawn all his conclusions from facts on record, and chiefly from the experience of the Duke of Athol, in his extensive larch plantations already mentioned. Perhaps the most astonishing fact respecting the larch is, that a man who begins to plant this tree at twenty-one years of age, should he live to seventy, may see a frigate built from trees of his own planting. The larch, in short, as naval timber, is to the oak, what the railroad is to the common road.

We have confined ourselves to quotations of the useful kind; but if we had room we might give proofs that the work is as entertaining as it is instructive, and that it may be read with pleasure both by the young and the old. Mr. Loudon not only treats of the history, geography, uses, propagation, &c. of trees and shrubs, but he gives us information respecting the insects which live on them; the fungi and mosses which grow on them; the diseases by which they are attacked; the birds which they feed, or which make their nests in them; the superstitions respecting them; and their legendary and poetical associations.

Can it be necessary to recommend such a book to those who already know Mr. Loudon's encyclopædias? We need only say, that in the Arboretum et Fruticetum Britannicum he has far surpassed himself; he is, in short, the Evelyn of the nineteenth century, and we do not know that we can award him higher praise.

Sketches of Scenery in the Basque Provinces of Spain, with a Selection of National Music, arranged for Piano-Forte and Guitar: illustrated by Notes and Reminiscences connected with the War in Biscay and Castile. By Henry Wilkinson, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and late Staff-Surgeon in the British Legion. Imperial 4to. pp. 80. London, 1838. Ackermann and Co.

This volume gives us some vivid descriptions of the many horrors, miseries, and privations witnessed and suffered by the luckles Legion during the late campaign. Placed in a consequently, in this state only that the tree is list of successful planters, as that of the late situation (that of staff-surgeon) where the more painful scenes attendant upon warfare would necessarily pass under his eye, Mr. Wilkinson could scarcely avoid mixing such with his lighter and more agreeable task of scenic de-scription; from the former we select the follow-

"Here I also found that gallant young officer Dupont, who had suffered amputation of the thigh the previous evening. He received me in a singular manner, evincing the most philosophical indifference for his serious loss. Unfortunate, but it is the chance of war; hard knocks were to be expected! Of what use would it be to grieve now? it would never restore me my lost leg, and would certainly be prejudicial to my recovery.' Such were his words, and there was nothing assumed in his manner,-his bearing was natural, easy, and frank, and I could not but admire his surprising coolness. I may as well conclude his history here. He did well the three or four weeks he remained in Irun. After that period had elapsed, the wounded officers were collected from the different hospitals, placed in a boat on the Bidassoa, and brought round the coast to San Sebastian. I remember being told of their arrival, and hastening down to offer my assistance in their removal. I found the boat aground in the deep mud of the harbour, and it was even difficult for an active man to get on board. The wounded were, consequently, detained some time in their uncomfortable posi-How fared it with the brave and philosophical Dupont? After shaking hands with Ormsby and De Burgh, I spoke to him. I was struck with the querulous tone of his voice, so different from what it was on my first seeing him after his loss. His pulse was quick, his skin was hot and dry, and fears arose in my mind for his life. I observed a sheet stretched along the bottom of the boat, and inquired what it covered. He shuddered, and recoiled with horror, as he replied, 'The body of poor Pheelan, who died on our short passage here. This it is that has shocked me the most, and I am afraid I shall soon follow him.' There was an earnestness and solemnity about his voice and manner that made me feel sure he spoke prophetically. Dupont was removed to his billet, was attacked by feverish symptoms, and, in spite of the most unremitting care and attention, fell a victim within three weeks time. He was buried on the castle hill of San Sebastian, amongst the fallen brave.'

And again: —" I pass over the sickening horrors of that flight: suffice it to say, that many officers and men sunk to the earth in a state of complete physical exhaustion, and, with the powers of the mind in full activity, they waited till the bloodhounds came up to despatch them. Thus perished the talented but eccentric Carnaby, the warm-hearted Dal-rymple, the wild and jovial O'Brien, and many men of the Rifles and Scotch. Captain Harris, who escaped, was several times on the point of giving up the race, but he was prevented by a gallant fellow, an orderly of Co-lonel Wilson's, who, although wounded through the arm, persisted in forcing him onwards. That officer told me that he passed Carnaby and Dalrymple, and heard the dying shrieks of O'Brien. How affecting the description he gave of their hopeless parting: 'Oh, Harris, help me, help me, or I fail!' 'Cheer up, Carnaby, and you may yet escape; I cannot help you—I can scarcely move myself.' Then farewell, Harris, for here I wait my death.' The imagination quails before the picture presented

murderers came up. The thoughts of the homes they were never more to see, - of relatives and friends whose hands they would never again grasp,—the more tender recollections of the husband or lover,—all concentrated in the brief period of a few short minutes, must have been keener far than the bayonet that terminated their existence."

An anecdote in the commencement of the march is amusing, though it also terminates

sadly.

"He was established with a brother-officer in an excellent billet, containing two deliciously clean beds. They had not been long in posses-sion, when a comfortable and substantial-looking man, rather beyond the middle age, entered the house, and claimed possession. A hot altercation was the result; but the affair was settled by Jenner's kindly giving up one bed to the new comer. Provisions were scarce with the assistant-surgeon and his friend, -imagine, then, their delight on seeing an immense canteen brought into the room, containing abund-auce of good things, in the shape of tea, coffee, sugar, preserves, and cherry-brandy. delight amounted to ecstasy when a huge Yorkshire ham and a number of eggs were produced. The party made an excellent supper, and as the wine warmed the heart of the old commissary, (for such he proved to be) he began to descant on the annoyances he had endured during our He had lost some of his baggage, and been frightened to death by a few shots fired at our force, in passing through an extensive forest. He had imagined that our marches would be very much the same as those of detachments moving from town to town in England, over good roads, and with the advantage of baggagewagons. Once on the subject of home, by a natural enough transition, he described in glowing terms the comforts he had left behind in his house at Norwood. 'What an old fool I was to come out here, where no living creature cares for me! How differently was I estimated at home! My wife and daughters looked up to me as a superior being. Every wish I formed was anticipated. I jumped into the omnibus in the morning, reached the city, transacted my little business, and by half-past four was set down at my own door. Oh, what a con-founded old fool I was, to leave my little villa at Norwood, to come soldiering in Spain! Poor fellow, he never saw his cherished home again; he fell a victim to the desolating pestilence that raged at Vittoria."

Some thirty pages, at the end of the volume, are devoted to a pleasant collection of Spanish

music. Mr. W. says :-

" He fears these latter most beautiful melodies will lose considerably by their English adaptation. The language to which they have been hitherto united is the Basque or Bascuense, a dialect as totally different to [from] pure Castilian as the Welsh language to [from] the English. Heard in that wild country, amidst the sublime works of nature, and gushing forth without art from bands of children, these airs possessed an indescribable charm, and produced an effect it would be hopeless to attempt to imitate in an English drawing-room."

Nevertheless, several of these airs are very delightful, and grow upon the ear on repetition, The embellishments are, — "Renteria;"
"Plains and City of Vittoria;" "Alza, Renteria, and Lezo;" "Position of Lord John Hay, at Passages;" "Postion of Lora John Hay, at Passages;" "Port of Passages;" "Carlist Fort, El Parque, with Fontarabia, and Mouth of the Bidassoa;" "Irun, with Mount San Martial and the Bridge of Beho-

Bridge of Capauchinos;" "Fontarabia; "Hernani;" "San Sebastian;" "Buris " Burialplace of British Officers on the Castle Hill of San Sebastian."

Parallèle des Langues de l'Europe et de l'Inde, &c.; avec un Essai de Transcription Générale. Par F. G. Eichoff, &c. 4to. Paris, 1836. Essay on the Nature, Age, and Origin of the Sanscrit Writing and Language. By E. W.

Wale, D.D. M.R.I.A. 4to. Dublin, 1838. SINCE the appearance of Grimms' earlier volumes, and the more immediate and consequent researches of Bopp, the learned world have turned their eyes, with no common curiosity, to Hindostan; and, with a sage consistency, equally remarkable and creditable to the actual enlightened state of the age, while they have steadily refused to recognise the history of India as affording a clue to that of Europe, they have as steadily insisted that, on the sister subject of languages, the former should afford the most satisfactory key to the latter. A. modification of the two points might, possibly, produce a nearer approach to the truth; but it is our misfortune, that even the few who have attempted this course have been induced, at the same time and by way of counterpoise, to embrace an opposite error with a zeal equal to that of their adversaries __ and which, in truth, always distinguishes every portion of mankind whenever they are obviously in the wrong.

The two works before us are singularly illustrative of the two classes, - the orthodox and the infidel, - who with rival zeal approach the Jaganat idol of Sanscrit science and monstrosity, wenerate or destroy. M. Eichoff is a true believer; he takes all that has been asserted on the subject for granted; and, seeing the system complete, and in vogue before him, he never doubts of its perfection, but cordially adopts the creed of languages, and employs, for its illustration and support, all the elaboration of labour and thought robing the genius of his fancy in a tissue of no ordinary eloquence and elegant

Dr. Wale, on the contrary, is an impugner of Sanscrit antiquity; but, in order to assail it with effect, he has raised up to the level of its walls, after the fashion of ancient besiegers, a mound of his own, in the shape of the Greek system, and which, we fear, would offer little or no resistance to any sally of his opponents. He has connected, too, this Greek system with some portion of the Hebrew, but with rather more ingenuity than success; and crowned the whole with a kind of horn-work, in the shape of hypotheses and assertion springing from his own head entirely, and carried to a height that satisfactorily rivals the labours of Diabolus, when, according to honest John Bunyan, he built up a wall before Mr. Understanding's house, so that he could see nothing from his parlour windows." But though he thus established

"a formidable dyke Betwixt his own and others' intellect,"

in one part of his argument, we are bound to say, that there is much reason, force, and truth, in portions of Dr. Wale's work; and these require careful inspection, and a complete refutation, before the integrity of the Sanscrit can be insisted upon by its admirers.

We cannot conceive where, in the Scriptures, is to be found any authority for that simultaneous perfection of utterance, and intuitive ability, which, according to M. Eichoff, Dr. Kidd, and some other writers, were bestowed to the mind, of the bitter moments of agony Mount San Martial and the Bridge of Beho-endured by these fine young men, till their bia;" "Fontarabia, with the Convent and son, it might have been allowable to reason

upon Speech as a single operation, or gift, and to confound the state of its subsequent cultivation, in some one of the stages, with the enunciation of the First Man. But there exists no ground whatever for this supposition in the Scriptures themselves; and from all we can see in examining the wrecks of language and dialect, the system being every where obviously progressive, there is, or may be, much room to doubt whether the language of our first parents was not a simple articulation-a medium, possibly, between the anisonant utterance of animals (not uniform, because varying with various emotions) and the improved monosyllables of the Chinese, artificially modulated by tones and notes, ascending, descending, and sustained, or simply continuous. Chinese writers have compared their tongue with the Sanscrit, though but partially in every sense of the word : a bolder and more efficient comparison, though, unfortunately, but too limited hitherto, has been instituted, or rather inculcated, by a few of our own countrymen. Without granting the originality claimed by the Chinese, we are certainly disposed to admit so far their claim to an earliest antiquity, inasmuch as we hold the monosyllable form of their language to be an incontestible evidence of original formation.

We not only concur entirely in the re-marks of Dr. Wale, that Hebrew letters were originally syllables-and the slightest comparison between the Zend and Hebrew will shew, that, in corresponding words, the first is only a cultivated form of the latter; but we do not hesitate also to declare our opinion, in opposition to M. Eichoff and a favourite European notion, that what we now call words were at first undistinguished from other consonants. The early Syriac alphabet, or syllobary, is one proof of this; the pointing of the short vowels, as in in the same manner? Or is this not a She-Hebrew and Arabic, a second; the nasal as-mitic language? And has Dr. Wale even seen pirates and vocalisation of the older Persian, a third. The Ethiopic, a fourth instance, brings this down to a late period; and, if further confirmation be wanting, it is found not only in this, forming the sole explainable basis of the cuneiform character, but also, and more un-deniably, in the unquestionable evidence of the Sanscrit itself; where, not only in the case adduced by Dr. Wale, but continually, the long vowel does not give vocality to the consonant it follows, but preserves its own sound perfectly distinct from the short vocalic produced by the utterance of the foregoing consonant.

If Dr. Wale had recollected the passage to which we have referred respecting the Syriac alphabetic invention, he might have added to the argument adduced from Nicephorus, the fact, that the Ethiopic alphabet was rather a restoration than an invention. But we entirely coincide in his opinion of the great mistake of Abel Remusat, and, in truth, we ourselves look upon the basis assumed by the latter as the fundamental error that pervades his "Dissertation on the Tartar Dialects," and perpetually embarrasses his conclusions. The distinction of consonant and vowel is clearly a refinement, for it must have succeeded the earliest utterance and simple recognition of both sounds.

We must, consequently, dissent entirely from the opinion of M. Eichoff, that, in the first instance, the perfection of the organs and their extreme delicacy permitted a crowd of varied inflexions, imperceptible at the present day; the vowels, in their sonorous modulation, being the spontaneous cries of the soul, while the more firm and articulate consonants characterised a deeper impression, and marked thought by a single trait.

Notwithstanding our occasional agreement we have, nevertheless, objected to giving them with Dr. Wale, and the praise we have bestowed a species of commentarial belief, a faith of deupon a portion of his Essay, we must observe, that there are many important points touched upon to which he does not appear to have given sufficient consideration. We cannot understand the necessity of presuming the Sanscrit to be derived from the Abyssinian, merely because there was a communication between the two countries in the sixth century of the Christian era. The communication between England and the United States comes down far later, yet England and the English alphabet are not derived from America. To Oriental scholars, whom we presume Dr. Wale addresses, the communication in question, long before the time of the Caliph Omar, is familiarly known, and does not require the evidence of two pages from Montfaucon to establish it now. Nor is there any force in the assertion that no alphabet can be proved to be original, for this proof is clearly an impossibility in itself. His Greek origin for the Egyptian alphabet is at least amusing, if not novel. tion of the enneiform Persian, as Syriac letters, is confident, if not satisfactory; and the cause assigned for the superabundance of Sanscrit letters is not only new, but likely to remain so. What is meant by the Indian finding no example in any Asiatic writing for syllables beginning with a vowel, "for none of the Shemitic class afford an example" of it, we do not attempt to comprehend. Were there none but Shemitic languages in Asia twelve hundred years since? Was there no Græco-Bactrian sovereignty, nor alphabet? No Greek alphabet there for the casket copy of Alexander's Homer? Did not the ancient Persian prefix a vowel to many consonants? Did not the He-brew itself take a form both vocal and aspirate the inscriptions of Persepolis? We trust that before he again enters the difficult field of Sanscrit controversy, the obvious marks of superficiality and inconsiderateness, both as to the astronomy and grammar, and not of the Brahmins alone, will be erased by Dr. Wale from his books.

Although we have at the very outset expressed our dissent from the opening portion of M. Eichoff's volume, we freely grant him all the praise—and this is no trifle—that his work deserves. Based upon a principle which, even if erroneous, is at least admitted by the far larger proportion of scholars and the most eminent Orientalists, both of this country and the Continent, the laborious researches of M. Eichoff serve every where to confirm the proposition he has undertaken, and by a series of instances evident to the simplest comprehension. To a course of demonstration that has reflected immortal honour upon Grimm and Bopp, is superadded a general view of lan-guage itself, and its divisions into the different families of the human race, with a care and accuracy of arrangement, a depth of thought, and a tried perspicuity of detail and definition, that leaves ever after the writer's object and views an integral portion of the reader's mind. The glow of a brilliant fancy illuminating the deeps of science is aided, too, by the charm of a classic purity of expression almost unknown to philology. Often as the subject before us has formed the theme of learned dissertation, we do not remember ever to have met with it in such happy groupings as fill the commencing portion of Dr. Eichoff's work, and demand for it a place in every library.

Regarding the Hebrew Scriptures as the sole

ductions, unsupported altogether by their proper evidence, but founded merely upon argumentative conclusions, drawn from them in days when comparative philology had no existence, and the theorists, consequently, who formed these conclusions had no scientific basis upon which to ground their dectrines. It is clear that such writers, however learned, were not so capable of judging as ourselves, with the lights of the present day before our eyes; and, therefore, that the errors which they have attached to the Scriptures ought to be most carefully distinguished from the hely text; and this for the sake of faith, no less than of science. We read of names bestowed on beasts, and instructions given to man, by his great Creator; but what right have we to suppose these were not all expressed by simple sounds? We find in the later relations of society novel discoveries of every kind arising on the senses, and novel situations formed out of novel and more intricate complications — just as the game of chess is more complicated than that of draughts.* To those novelties in life fresh names are applied; which, in the earlier stages of society, were as unknown as the positions they represent. Who can say, therefore, that syllables do not combine progressively, as words increase, in proportion to the increase of the ideas they represent? M. Eichoff is surely, then, asserting a questionable case, if not a positive error of fact, when he affirms, that " language is not a gradual invention, the result of long com-bination." Let us but examine the remains of the oldest and rudest languages that are left to us, and we shall see grounds for, at least, withholding our consent to this long-received, but very doubtful assumption. The author himself seems to support our scepticism, when he affirms, "We can only receive as fact that primitive words must have been few in num-ber, and all monosyllabic." And he goes on to shew that simple terms must have been subsequently analogically applied to analogies, as height and depth, cavity and projection, light and warmth, cold and darkness, are expressed by the same sounds. Facts which evidence incontestibly that what we now call figures of speech are, in truth, only substitutions, arising from paucity of language, in every age and country of the world.

There is much truth, as well as beauty, in the view of language originally, as taken by M. Eichoff; and we extract the following passage from his second head; namely, division of languages : -

"The history of languages is the basis of that of nations amidst the thick darkness that covers the early ages of the world, amongst the errors and fables wherewith each people has surrounded its cradle; it forms the clue that directs us with method and probability at least, if not with certainty, marking the analogies and differences in the human family; characterising each successive generation; and printing on the changeful soil those traces of its rapid passage which so many succeeding events seem to have effaced for ever. in fact, can general history teach us of the first establishments of men, of their con-nexions, their divisions, the formation of tribes, and their respective dispersions? has followed their silent march across deserts, rivers, and mountains, and seen the vast web of nations spreading progressively over the

Regarding the Hebrew Scriptures as the sole and sound records of man's earliest history, cated games than mere novices.

pages, has given us a glimpse of this imposing calls itself compound? mystery; but, confined to great truths, it proclaims the original unity of nations without tracing the outline of their vicissitudes. There, where history is mute and revealed tradition has paused, what guide remains to us for this most interesting research if not comparative ethnography, which can in some shape reconstruct the world as at its birth, by the union of geography with the science of languages (la linguistique), the general move-

ment of its population?"

The ample view of nations and languages that follows is, as we have already remarked, so full of clearness, perspicuity, and beauty, that we shall not be surprised to see it published, with, indeed, the whole of this portion, in a separate volume, as admirably calculated for every library and table where knowledge is desirable in her most graceful form. One theory, doubtless, is as good as another, where all are so questionably supported; but we must confess, nevertheless, that we do not see how an Indo-Persian race could have formed "that ethnographical tribe cradled in the lovely and smiling valley of Cashmere;" a fact we consider more than apocryphal: but it is only doing justice to M. Eichoff to notice how forcibly, adopting this point as the common centre, he has thrown off, like radii, the diverging races that, from the land of their birthplace, traversed Asia and Europe, the islands of the East and the West, to people the earth and to enjoy it.

We must, however, object, and formally, to the application of the term Indian for the Sanscrit language, even if we grant, as a matter of general belief, that this ancient tongue is really the original of Hindostan. This fertile source of controversy is not the point of our objection; but, till it can be shewn demonstratively that the fact is so, we must oppose a nomenclature that has no basis, but, philosophically speaking, of assumption; and that discards the recognised forms and terms of science on this head, to introduce an arbitrary appellation in a novel and contradictory sense to its received usage, thereby confusing by science what science would strive to simplify. On what ground can the Sanscrit be more Indian, par excellence, than the Tamul, a language pronounced by the highest living authority for the former, and assuredly one of its warmest, but at the same time, wisest advocates (Professor Wilson), to be of quite equal antiquity with the Sanscrit, and essentially different from it? If M. Eichoff cannot prove that this last perfect language has given rise to the imperfect, instead of being improved from some, or all of them, as seems most natural, what right can he have to take their proper denomination to designate this one? And is not the term Sanscrit as well, or rather infinitely better understood, and a more appropriate epithet for that perfected tongue, thau the vague generality implied by the word Indian? Would the learned writer inflict upon us a second confusion like that already existing, and bewildering philologists in the term Persian, used to designate at once the generic and the specific, and often also two individuals of this latter class into the bargain-the Parsi and the Persic, as they are sometimes called? Is the Hebrew, we would ask, Indian? is the Pali, Indian? Yet do not these enter deeply into the composition of the Sanscrit? to say nothing of affinities with the Chinese. Why, then, should M. Eichoff endeavour to

earth? A single volume, in a few sublime | simple, in order to consider simple that which | romantic district, Dovedale, not more than two

It is this disposition to prefer one particular system that leads M. Eichoff, we conceive, to affirm so confidently that the warlike Persians wrote in the arrow-head character before they had a special alphabet. This is a point that cannot be taken for granted; we know the cuneiform to be as old as the Persian invasion of Scythia; it may be much older: but whence came the reputed Greek characters added at the siege of Troy? If M. Eichoff will ex-amine, he will find them to be Persian. And this simple fact shews the danger of taking possibilities for certainties.

Another assertion, not less confident, nor less unfortunate, is that the Greeks took their alphabet from Phænician, or Chaldean. Now, whence comes the Chaldean alphabet? A glance at several of its forms shews them contracted from the arrow-head character, and not through Phoenician or Samaritan medium. How, according to our author's theory, is this possible? The fact is the more striking from M. Eichoff's own remark, that, "in spite of the Indian origin of nearly all the European tongues, their first written alphabet was the Phoenician or Hebrew." A salutary scepticism would surely have doubted, or looked further, if only from this one statement.

The errors of learning are a thankless, though necessary, task for the critic; and we turn from these oversights, the result of receiving blindly the reigning impossibilities of opinion, to general view of our author's object. he states it himself, is to afford a view of the original or radical forms of words, so that students of various tongues may have their labours simplified by seeing at a glance the affinities of words and languages. We are happy to say that this laborious, but useful, task is performed most satisfactorily by the method adopted; and strongly recommend M. Eichoff's work as equally instructive and entertaining in both the general, or lighter, and the scientific portions. - A rare praise.

Music and Friends. [Second notice.]

AMID the influx of new publications, we shall only return to this work to give one extract

from the second volume.

"In the summer I paid a visit to Mr. Anacreon Moore, when he resided at Mayfield Cottage, Derbyshire. He met me at the bridge-foot, where I alighted from the coach, a little beyond Ashbourn, and took me a near way over the fields. When we came to the top of the hill which commanded a view of the spangled vale below, I exclaimed,

'I can tell, by that smoke that so gracefully curls Above the green elms, that your cottage is near!'

He was pleased with the quotation (the wellknown song of 'The Woodpecker'), and we stopped a few minutes to survey the richness of the landscape. On arriving, it was delightful to be welcomed by his graceful wife, who was assiduous in entertaining her company. The condition imposed upon his visitors was to tarry with him only a certain number of days, having but one spare nest, which was to receive another bird the moment the former had flown. Another stipulation was, that immediately after breakfast he should be left alone till within an hour of dinner; he was then devoted to you for the remainder of the day. As he was desirous of shewing me the country, he broke through his plan, and formed a pic-Why, then, should M. Eichoff endeavour to nic party, with a neighbouring family, for the render a complex and generic denomination next day. His object was to shew me the

or three miles from his abode. The morning was fine, and we had an ass to carry the provisions. We proceeded by the way of Okeover Hall, and I was treated with a sight of that exquisite painting, the Madona by Raphael. In our walk, the most beautiful spots were pointed out by the bard. When we lolled round our table-cloth, spread upon a luxuriant bank by the murmuring Dove, it was delightful to hear the tone of his voice. He felt inspired amid the scenery, and, having passed the live-long day, we left the happy valley with reluctance, to stroll home in the evening. The next morning I was shewn into the library, and while there, a letter came from Mr. Jeffrey, complimenting him upon the learned review of the Fathers which he had written for the Edinburgh Review.' So much erudition was displayed in that article, that the editor sent him a carte blanche, pressing him to choose his own subject, and he should not be surprised if his next communication was a learned disquisition on astronomy. He put into my hands a MS. book, in the handwriting of Lord Byron, a memorial of his extraordinary life. scarcely feasted my eyes many seconds, when a carriage drove up full of ladies, to make a morning call. He said, 'I must take this book from you, I dare not let it lie about.' It was instantly put under lock and key."

We do not think Moore will feel complimented by having the authorship of "The Woodpecker" attributed to him.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Scrap-Book; Moral and Religious. Extracts from esteemed English Authors. By Charles Woodfall. Pp. 280. London, W. Ball and Co., Hatchard and Son, Nisbet and Co.; Edinburgh, Johnstone; Dublin, Curry and Co.

WE are well pleased to see the name of Woodfall, so well known and much respected in our literature, attached to a selection like the present, which does so much credit to the feeling and judgment of the selector. We think there must be nearly a hundred excellently chosen passages from the finest lights in the beautiful circle of our sacred writers.

The Menageries. The Natural History of Monkeys, Opossums, and Lemurs. 2 vols. Vol. I. Pp. 443. London, 1838. Knight. A VOLUME, under the auspices of "the Society for the Diffusion of Entertaining Knowledge, and contains popular accounts of nineteen of the curious creatures belonging to the monkey tribes, with woodcuts of their half-human

varieties.

Arabian Nights, Parts I. and II. (London, J. Thomas;

W. Smith; Simpkin and Co.) — While Lane's admirable
edition of these famous tales are going through the press,
the editors of the present parts have thought it a good
time to bring out the old text in a cheap form with notes,
&c., by M. G. Moir Bussey, and engravings from the designs
of R. Smirke. Price is the great recommendation.

The Sporting Review, No. I. (London, Ackermann.)—
The Sporting Review, No. I. (London, Ackermann.)—
The Sporting Review, No. I. (London, Ackermann.)—
The Sporting Magazine," and the "New Sporting
Magazine;" against both of whom he discharges a rattling
shot from his well-charged fowling-piece. The review
then takes up the usual sporting subjects, and treats them
with diligence in the collection of intelligence and spiri
in other parts. "The Sportsman" is a new start with a
periodical of some standing, with the former course of
the start with a wear over little acquainted. It has two nice
plates of houses and a dog.

The Farmer's Magazine, No. I.—Addressed to the
agricultural classes, and containing accounts of cattle
shows, improvements in machinery, breeding, farming,
dec. It is also a break in the series, and we know little of
it. The Bell's termible's a norther and similar break in a

its precursos.

The Belle Assemblée is another and similar break in a series which has reached ten volumes; all about fashions, dresses, and tales of deep laterest for readers who delight in such productions.

Ure's Dictionary of Arts, Manufactures, and Mines, Part V. (London, Longman and Co.)—The value of this work increases with every publication. This Part treats of golds, gens, flax, founding, gas, glass-making, and other important brauches of industry.

The Popular Cyclopedia, Vol. VI. Part II. (Glasgow, Blackie and Son.)—This popular work is drawing towards its close. The present Part contains from "Sundial" to "Wavre," and concludes the sixth volume. Mithnan's Edition of Gibbon, Vol. X. (London, Murray.)—Mr. Milman has almost terminated his labours. Two volumes more, and we shall have the most complete edition of Gibbon vet published.

The Genius and Wissom of Sir Walter Scott, &c. §c. Pp. 204. (London, Ort and Co.)—A multitude of excellent passages selected from Scott's works; but, as was aid of the "Beauties of Shakspere," where are the rest? Smith's Standard Library. (London, W. Smith.)—In an eighteenpenny octavo, we have "Paul and Vigilinis" and Madame Cottin's "Elizabeth" and the interesting "Life of Colonel Hutchinson" in one at half-acrown. They are neatly printed in double columns. This is truly carrying out the principle of cheapness.

Rentley's Standard Library of Popular Modern Literature.

Bentley's Standard Library of Popular Modern Literature.

Bentley's Standard Library of Popular Modern Literature.

Bentley's Standard Kowels, No. LXXII.— Washington Irving's "Astoria" in a single volume, and Bulwer's "Last Days of Pompeli," deserve each the public thanks. A portrait of Irving adorns the one, and suffontispiece and excellent vignette the other. The original Van Amburgh is here seen in Glaucus.

John Search's Last Work, &c. Pp. 36. (London, Ward and Co.)—A dissenting pamphiet, the gist of which is to argue that the Church of England loses more souls than it saves.

it saves. Part I. pp. 32. (London, Wiley and Putnam.)

A new political periodical, which takes a high and authoritative tone on questions of foreign policy. It is of free principles, and as we are not competent to say what weight is due to its statements, we shall content what weight is due to its statements, we shall content ourselves with observing that its views are, in many instances, more comprehensive and original than those to which we are accustomed in the usual organs of public

ownin, we are accusated in the usual organs to public opinion.

Effect of the Introduction of Ardent Spirits and Implements of War amongst the Natices of the South Ses Islands and New South Wales, by D. Wheeler. Pp. 21. (London, Harvey and Darton.)—Whether Europe and the United States have done more good to savage races by their attempts to civilise and Christianise them, or evil, by the communication of vile disease, the use of ardent spirits and other demoralising means, is a question it would be difficult to determine. We are much inclined to believe that the balance of ill greatly preponderates. This little pamphlet, extracted from the writings of "A Minister of the Society of Friends," affords melancholy proof of the continual and fatal introduction of these curses among the natives of the regions designated; and we are not surprised to find that American temperance ships are the most active in the cruel traffic.

not surprised to find that American temperance ships are the most active in the cruel traffic.

Mr. G. Godwin, jun. — Papers on Architecture. Pp. 40.
These clever essays are brought together from "Loudon's Architectural Magazine," which, we believe, finishes with this month. They well deserve the attention of the architectural student.

The Viczoy's Drawn. Pp. 25. (London, Whittaker and Co.) — Some sad, doggerel trash, about the late government in Canada.

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ment in Canada.

Rara Mathematica, &c. No. II. (London, Parker.)—
Hardly so well-chosen as the articles in the first number (see our No. 1126), but still well deserving of a place

(see our No. 1126), but still well deserving of a place among curious works of science.

Essays on the most Important Diseases of Women, by Robert Ferguson, M.D. &c. Pp. 299. (London, Murray.)

—The able professor of obstetric medicine and diseases of women and children in *King's College, London, has here given the public at large the advantage of his science and esperience. This volume treats of purepreal fever, and is of high and interesting character. Dr. Ferguson's lecture, on opening the medical classes in October 1836, is added to the publication, which we consider to be one of great value.

great value.

An Exposition of Quackery and Imposture in Medicine,
An Exposition of the "Philosophy of Living." With
Notes, by W. Wright, Surgeon-Aurist, &c. Pp. 239,
(Loudon, J. S. Hodson; Edinburgh, Black; Dublin,
Famin and Co.).—The original work of Dr. Caleb Ticknor
of New York.

(London, J. S. Hodson; Edinburgh, Black; Dublin, Fannin and Co.)—The original work of Dr. Caleb Ticknor of New York, and a very sensible and piquant exposure of many practices which deeply affect the dearest interests of society.

The Annual Register, &c. for 1837. (London, Rivington, and all other Booksellera.)—This useful volume pursues its quiet course, and collects all the usual matters for reference now and hereafter.

The Village Magazine, Nos. I., II., III., IV. (London, Tyas.)—A cheap, little, monthly publication, of which we have already expressed a favourable opinion;—not forfeited by the succeeding Numbers.

The Student's Cubinet Library of Useful Tracts, XXXI. (Edinburgh, Clark; London, Simpkin and Marshall.)—This nice little work goes on very faithfully. The present Part is the first of a philosophical series, and gives us Jauffray's Essays.

The Soutish Banker, &c., by W. H. Logan. Pp. 134. (Edinburgh, Fraser and Crawford; Loudon, Washourne; Dublin, Curry, Jun., and Co.) — A brief but clear exposition of the system of banking in Scotland, where banking has been practised with so much benefit to the people and the country. Mr. Logan is an experienced and practical man; and his little book a very

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.

MR. AIKIN 'On Bone and its Uses in the Arts;' No. 2. The secretary commenced this, his second lecture on the same subject, by a few introductory remarks as a summary of the last; he then proceeded to observe that the scrapings, shavings, or saw-dust of bone is an article which bears a good price in the market, being much used by pastry-cooks and others as a material for jelly, which it readily gives out to boiling water. The jelly thus produced is probably quite as good as that from calf's foot; and the shavings, when dry, have the advantage over calf's foot, of not suffering any change by keeping. On the subject of bone manure, Mr. Aikin stated that it had of late years attracted, in a very particular degree, the attention of the English farmer. Bones are collected in the streets of London and other great towns, and after being sorted, those that are not required for other purposes are used as manure. In the Thames, above London Bridge, may always be seen a few sloops and cutters, chiefly from Hull, which are occupied in this trade: they take the bones on board generally in a more or less putrid state, and stow them in bulk in the hold. Here they soon begin to ferment, giving out an odour by which the bone ships are detected at a considerable distance; and when the cargo is discharged at Hull, it is frequently reeking and smoking hot from decomposition. This probably softens the texture of the bones, and renders them more easy to be crushed in the mill through which they are passed, previous to disposing of them to the farmers. They are employed chiefly in two ways, either as a top dressing to grass land, or are drilled with turnip seed, the plants from which, under the stimulating effects of this powerful manure, quickly pass through their first stage into the rough leaf; and thus, in a great measure, avoid the attacks of the fly and other insects, by which young turnip plants of tardy growth are often entirely cut off. We pass to another branch of the subject, more scientific. The four simple substances of which the animal matter of bone is composed, are carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, and oxygen; and of those, the three latter, when in an uncombined state, and at the usual temperature and atmospheric pressure, are in the form of gas. Now and then it happens that three substances, habitually gaseous, are combined with one naturally solid, and when these four substances are likewise capable of uniting together by twos and threes, or, in other words, of forming binary and ternary compounds, the attraction that holds together all the four is easily disturbed by a moderate increase of temperature, in consequence of which, the same elements, by arranging themselves differently, produce two or more different substances. This is the case in the present instance. On exposing bone shavings even to a lamp heat, they are observed immediately to become black; shewing that the new compounds, which are the result of this decomposition, are not capable of combining with the whole of the carbon, but that part remains in the state of charcoal, intimately mixed with the earthy matter. This mixture goes by the name of bone-black, or animal charcoal. Part of the carbon combines with part of the oxygen, and forms carbonic acid; while part of the hydrogen and part of the nitrogen produce

useful one. We rejoice to observe that a Bank, to be conducted on the same principles, is just announced to be formed in London, with a capital of 3,000,000?., and a most satisfactory list of directors. position of bone. Part of the oxygen and hydrogen combine and produce water; and part of the oxygen, hydrogen, and carbon, by combining, produce a volatile oil, of a strong and peculiar odour, which goes by the name of animal oil. The remainder of the carbon and hydrogen, with probably some nitrogen, combine and produce an inflammable gas. Thus the decomposition of the single substance, bone, produces five new substances,-namely, animal charcoal, carbonate of ammonia, animal oil, water, and an inflammable gas. We might pursue these interesting researches further did our space permit. It has, in conclusion, been shewn that bone contains a considerable quantity of valuable nutriment (this chiefly in the last lecture); that, in its entire state, it is applicable to a variety of useful purposes; that the worker in steel employs it for case-hardening small and delicate articles; that, in proportion to its weight, it is the most valuable and active of all manures; that, in the absence of other combustibles, it may be, and is, largely used as fuel in the plains of Tartary and South America; that, by its decomposition in close vessels, it produces hartshorn, ammonia, and animal charcoal; and that, when burnt to ashes, it becomes useful to the assayer, furnishes a valuable polishing powder, and is the material from which phosphorus, that curious and interesting substance, the most combustible of all solids, is produced. Upon the whole of these heads we, of course, in our report of this able lecture, have no room to dilate.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

JANUARY 9. Mr. Whewell, president, in the chair.— During the late discussions in Paris respecting the Stonesfield fossils, one of the arguments iterated by M. de Blainville, in favour of their saurian nature, was founded on the supposed existence, in America, of a fossil reptile with double fangs, and named by Dr. Harlan, Basilosaurus. In our notice of the memoir read before the Geological Society on the 19th of December, it is stated, that Mr. Owen withheld his consent to the validity of M. de Blainville's argument until the nature of these remains was better known. Since that meeting, Dr. Harlan has arrived in London, and with a right scientific spirit and love of truth, he has not only permitted Mr. Owen to have the original specimens in his possession, but has allowed him to slice some of the teeth for microscopic investigation. Dr. Harlan read a notice of the discovery of the fossils; and Mr. Owen, an elaborate paper on their anatomical structure. Of the first we shall give a note next week. Mr. Owen commenced his memoir by alluding to the frequent reference of M. de Blainville to the basilosaurus in support of the supposed saurian nature of the Stonesfield fossils, and his own unwillingness to admit the validity of the argument till the teeth of the fossil had been re-examined, with an especial view to their alleged mode of implantation. He then mentioned the liberal manner in which Dr. Harlan had permitted him to examine the specimens brought to England. The following is a very brief analysis of the anatomical details of this important paper: jaw are compressed, obliquely conical, and contracted in the middle, so as to give a transverse section, somewhat of the hourglass form, and the opposite wide longitudinal groves which ammonia; the carbon and the ammonia, as they produce this shape, becoming deeper as the

crown approaches the socket, at length meet termediate to the herbivorous and piseivorous and divide the root of the teeth into two separate fangs. A transverse section of a tooth made near the base of the crown, presented two irregular rounded lobes joined by a narrow neck or isthmus. From the form and structure of the crown, it is evident that the pulp was originally simple, but soon divided into two parts, from which the growth of the ivory of the tooth proceeded, as from two distinct centres; each of which is separately surrounded by concentric stria of growth, the exterior one sending an acute-angled process into the isthmus uniting the two portions. The cavitas pulpi, which is very small in the crown of the tooth, contracts as the fangs descend, and is almost obliterated near their extremities, proving that the teeth were developed from a temporary pulp. The anterior teeth had single fangs. The lower jaw, Mr. Owen has been able to study only in a plaster-cast of a fragment. It contains four teeth, of which the two posterior are nearly contiguous; the next has an interval of an inch and a half; and the most anterior, which is of smaller size, is at a distance of two inches from the preceding. This fragment confirms the evidence afforded by the portions of the upper jaw, that the teeth in the basilosaurus were of two kinds; the anterior being smaller, more simple in form, and more remote from each other, than those behind. As there is no known instance of either fish or reptile having its teeth implanted by two fangs in a double socket, Mr. Owen proceeded at once to compare the teeth of the basilosaurus with those of the mammalia, which most nearly resemble them in these respects. Among herbivorous cetaceans, the molares of the manatee have two long and separate fangs, lodged in deep sockets, and the anterior teeth, when worn down, present a form of the crown somewhat similar to that of the American fossil; but when perfect, the grinding surface is very different from those of basilosaurus, supporting two transverse conical ridges, and the hinder molares recede still further in, having three transverse ridges. The dugong presents a nearer general resemblance to the fossil in its molar teeth, the anterior ones being smaller and more simple than the posterior, and the complication of the latter being due to exactly the same kind of medification as in the basilosaurus; a tranverse section of the posterior molar gives also an approach to the hourglass figure. In the back teeth of the dugong, there is likewise a tendency to the formation of a double fang, and the establishment of two centres of radiation for the calcigerous tubes of the ivory. Though Mr. Owen confined his comparison chiefly to the mammiferous class, yet, in consequence of the pre-sumed saurian nature of the fossil, he shewed that the teeth of the basilosaurus differ from those of all known saurians in their more complex and various forms; from the mosasaurus, in being implanted in distinct sockets, and not anchylosed to the substance of the jaws; from the ichthyosaurus and all the lacertine sauria, in being implanted in distinct sockets, and not placed in a common continuous groove; from the plesiosanrus and crocodilian reptiles, in which the teeth are in distinct sockets, in the fangs not being single and expanding as they descend, but double fanged, diminishing in size, and becoming consolidated by the progressive deposition of dental substance from a temporary pulp in progress of absorption. If, therefore, an opinion had been to be founded upon the obvious external characters of the teeth alone, he should have concluded that the fossil was a mates the true cetacea; but, in the expansion mammiferous animal of the cetaceous order in- of the distal extremity, and the form of the flavour.

sections of that order as it now stands in the Cuvierian system. As those anatomists who regard the basilosaurus as an exception among reptiles, in having teeth with two fangs, may consider the solidification of the fangs and the absence of numerous successional teeth as inconclusive evidence of the mammiferous nature of the fossil, Mr. Owen had tranverse sections made of a tooth, to ascertain whether the evidence of the intimate structure of the dental substance in the basilosaurus would be contradictory to the previous inferences of the mammiferous characters, or give cumulative proofs of their correctness. Mr. Owen first premised that in the teeth of those fishes which are implanted in distinct sockets, the medullary canals are arranged in a beautiful reticulate manner extending through the entire substance of the tooth; that in the ichthyosaurus and crocodile, the calcigerous tubuli radiate from a simple central pulp to every part of the circumference, and that the crown of the tooth is covered with enamel, but the part placed in the alveolus is surrounded by a thick cortical substance; that in the dolphin the crown is covered with enamel, and the inserted base with comentum; that in the cachalot and dugong the whole of the exterior of the tooth is covered with comentum, traversed in the latter by numerous fine tubes closely aggregated, and giving off numerous branches, the purturgian corpuscles, or cells, being scattered in the interspaces of the tubes which here and there communicate with the true calcigerous tubes of the ivory. In a fine section of a tooth of the basilosaurus, taken from about the middle of the exposed crown, Mr. Owen found that the tooth is invested by a layer of camentum, and not enamel; and that it presents the same microscopic characters as the comentum of the crown of the tooth of the dugong. The entire substance of the ivory of the tooth consists of fine calcigerous tubes. radiating from the centre of each lobe, and without any mixture of coarser medullary tubes. They present a regular undulating course, and, like the calcigerous tubes of the dugong, exhibit most plainly the primary di-chotemus bifurcations, and the subordinate lateral branches, which are given off at acute angles. Upon the whole, the microscopic characters of the texture of the teeth of the basilosaurus are strictly of a mammiferous nature; and confirm the inference respecting the position of the fossil in the natural system drawn from the external aspect of the teeth. Mr. Owen then proceeded to shew that in the original separation and subsequent union of the epiphyseal laminæ of the large vertebra, the fossil also indicates a character of the herbivorous cetacea and mammiferous quadrupeds. In the smaller vertebræ the epiphyses are wanting; and Mr. Owen agrees with Dr. Harlan, in inferring that there were originally three separate points of ossification in the body of the vertebra, -a character never observed in the vertebræ of saurians, but most prominently among those of the cetaceans. Mr. Owen drew other arguments in favour of the mammiferous and cetaceous nature of the fossil, from the great capacity of the canal for the spinal cord, and in numerous characters presented by the vertebræ. The hollow structure of the lower jaw has been adduced as evidence of the saurian nature of the fossils; but it occurs also in the cachalot, and is, therefore. equally good for the cetaceous character. In the compressed shaft of the humerus, and its proportion to the vertebræ, the fossil approxi-

articular surface, this humerns stands alone, Lastly, Dr. Harlan having examined with Mr. Owen the section of the teeth, fossil and recent, has admitted the deductions in favour of the mammiferous nature of the basilosaurus; and having suggested the propriety of its name being changed, Mr. Owen proposes to call the fossil Zygodon, in reference to the posterior molar teeth resembling two simple teeth tied together. A paper, On the Geology of the Neighther. A paper, 'On the Geology of the Neighbourhood of Lisbon,' by Mr. Daniel Sharpe, F.G.S., was commenced.

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BOTANICAL SOCIETY.

JANUARY 4. Mr. Gray, president, in the chair.—Mr. Daniel Cooper, curator, communicated a paper, being 'Remarks on the Dispersion of Plants in the Environs of London, and the Formation of Plans, exhibiting the Distribution of Species over Localities." The metropolitan botanist can certainly boast of a Flora, perhaps, not to be equalled throughout the whole of England. Surrey is particularly rich in orchi-deous plants. In Kent, two species of orchis have been found, which are not found in Surrey; viz. Ophrys fucifera and Ophrys tetrophosanthos. This tribe is not confined to the counties of Surrey and Kent in the London district, as might be supposed; they also occur in Essex and Middlesex, but not so frequently. Towards Harefield and St. Albans they make their appearance in great quantities. We have, in the combined counties of Surrey and Kent, twenty-eight species out of thirty-six British orchideous plants, the remaining eight being mostly confined either to local or northern districts. Nor is Kent behind her sister-county in other rare plants. Althea hirsuta, Polypogon Monspeliensis, and P. littoralis, Bupleurum tenuissimum, Hutchinsia petræa, Valerianella calcitrapa, Salvia pratensis, Hyoscyamus niger, Paris quadrifolia, Gentiana amarella, and Gentiana pneumonanthe, may be considered but a few of them.

MEDICO-BOTANICAL SOCIETY.

THE ordinary meeting of this society was held on Wednesday last, Gordon Gill, Esq., in the chair, and Her Majesty's acceptation of the patronage of the institution was announced .-After the election and admission of new members, Dr. Sigmond resumed his lecture on tea, and gave an elaborate account of the tea plant recently discovered in Upper Assam, prepared in the East Indies, and now imported for the first time into this country. A specimen of the tea, a second importation, was exhibited; but the learned professor said, that it was not equal in quality to that exhibited at the last meeting, being a part of the tea first imported_the latter having been injured in its voyage; and, consequently, undergone another firing at Calcutta. This arose only from insecure package, and did not affect the importance of the trade which the discovery would open to us with India. Dr. Sigmond mentioned, that the tea imported had been prepared in its wild and uncultivated state, and was believed, although prepared as a black tea, to be the tea which, in China, was made into green tea. The tree was nevertheless incontestibly proved to be the true tea plant; and the climate and soil of the tract of country where it was found, corresponded in every material particular with that of the largest and best tea farms in China. The lectures are to be published at the request of the members .-At the conclusion, tea was made from the speeimen exhibited, and appeared of an agreeable

ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

AT the usual monthly meeting, a number of new members were elected. Total receipts for the past year, 14,0941. 2s. 9d.; total expenditure for the same period, 12,5881. 12s. 1d. : excess of income over expenditure, 1505l. 10s. 8d. The council reported from the medical superintendent and head keeper that, from the spring of 1837, though the mortality among the larger carnivora used to be dreadful, not a single lion, tiger, or leopard, has been lost. This improvement is, of course, owing to the attention of those whose duty it is to look after the health of the animals in a scientific manner. Among the donations recently made to the museum is an Indian fowl, remarkable for having had one of its spurs engrafted upon its head. The spur, in consequence of its removal to a part in which the supply of arterial blood was greatly increased, had grown to an unnatural size, and hung down in crescentic shape, presenting a very singular appearance. A speci-men of the white bait, presented to the Society by Mr. Williams, was exhibited by Mr. Yarrell, in order to shew the large size sometimes attained by this species; its dimensions were. entire length, six inches; depth, measured about midway between the dorsal fin and the extremity of the head, one inch two lines.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

Professor Wilson in the chair. the Himyaritic Writing and Dialect of Job, with that still spoken by the Inhabitants of Mahrah.' In this letter, Lieut. Wellsted mencoast of Arabia, in an unknown character, having much resemblance to the Abyssinian; and gave his reasons for supposing that they contained the ancient Himyaritic language. He observed that, according to Edrisi, the Himyaritic tongue was spoken at Mahrab in his simple to south of the south of Arabia, have been found in the court also; and an extensive series of those found in the Wady 'l Mukatteb, is engraved from the inscriptions at Nakub-el-Hedier, copied to the third volume of the "Transactions of the" —Ed. L. G. that, according to Edrisi, the Himyaritic tongue was spoken at Mahrah in his time, and that an Arabic proverb existed to the same effect concerning Zhafar, both places at no great distance from the spot where these in-scriptions were found. M. Fresnel, now in Arabia, has a servant from that part of the country, who, of course, speaks the dialect, and from his mouth he has taken down a considerfrom his mouth he has taken down a considerable vocabulary, the paradigm of a verb, with MR. LUBBOCK in the chair.—On Thursday several sentences, some of which have been published in the "Journal Asiatique." The great Himyaritic empire is said by the Arabian historians to have lasted above 2000 years, to have extended its limits to India, and to have numbered among its sovereigns the celebrated queen of Sheba. One of their monarchs is supposed to have led an army of 12,000 Arabs into Chinese Tartary, where their vestiges still remain. Many persons have doubted the existence of this empire, but recent discoveries had shewn that it had been the seat of large and populous cities, a list of which he had given in his travels, vol. ii. p. 440. He also alluded to a wall of blocks of hewn marble, thirty feet in height, and carried round a hill half a mile in circumference, on a spot marked by our geographers as a desert. This was a matter of much in-terest; and he was informed, when on the spot, that whole districts were strewn with similar edifices. He then alluded to the discovery of inscriptions by Mr. Cruttenden at Sana, similar to those which he had himself discovered, and concluded with a hope that

thority of Sir James Carnac, recently appointed to the governorship of Bombay, for stating that he would be most happy to aid the views of the Society in this, or any other object that might conduce to the advancement of our acquaintance with the less known portions of the Eastern world. Professor Wilson read some notes, in order to shew to the Society the state of our knowledge with regard to the Himyaritic language and character. He said that Arabian authors had not unfrequently mentioned that Himyaritic or Homerite inscriptions, and that some had attempted explanations of them; and that, however valueless these might be, and many were palpable inventions, they at least indicated a commendable curiosity, which might in some cases have been productive of useful results; at all events, the results of their researches should not be condemned without examination. M. Rödiger, in the Göttingen "Zeitschrift," gave two specimens of alphabets not unlike those under consideration, with their Arabic equivalents, taken from MSS. in the Royal Library of Berlin, and referred to others in the Paris Library. Professor Wilson said there was one in the Public Library of Cambridge, among the valuable collection of Burckhardt; and that it was possible that some assistance might be derived from these sources. He observed that the inscriptions found by Lieut. Wellsted, those by Mr. Cruttenden at Sana, and by Mr. Hulton at Dees, agreed sufficiently with the Ethiopic character to warletter by Lieut. Wellsted, of the Indian navy, rant the belief in a common origin. He was read to the meeting, 'On the Identity of thought, therefore, that there would be no insuperable difficulty in deciphering these inscriptions, particularly if the Himyaritic lan-

Royal Society of Literature." All that had been written on the subject previous to 1785 has been collected by De Sacy, and was published in Paris in 1808; since which the subject seems to have dropped, until the discovery of Lieut. Wellsted, and the labours of M. Fresnel, who is now in Arabia, and has written several interesting letters on the subject of Arabian history before the time of Mohammed. In one of these letters, M. Fresnel promises to send a grammar and vocabulary of the Himyaritic language. He remarked that foreign orientalists, who, he was ashamed to say, were deep in such matters long before we knew of their existence, were of opinion that these characters were really those of the Himyaritic language, and that the language was still spoken. If this were the case, these inscriptions ought to be readily translatable; and, until this was done, he thought it prudent to suspend our judgment on their origin, or their importance in confirming any historical conclusions derived from traditionary sources. Lieut. Wellsted then said, that in addition to what was already published, he had found inscriptions in other parts of Arabia, which he would shortly forward to the Society; and he took the opportunity to express his regret that while much expense and danger had been incurred in sending expeditions into Africa, the much more interesting and equally unknown territories of Arabia should have been scarcely attempted. His own experience led him to believe that the difficulties attending such a measure were greatly overrated; and he would be happy to prepare a detailed plan for carrying it into effect.

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evening the meetings were resumed, after the Christmas recess. A paper 'On the Law of Human Mortality,' communicated by Mr. Roget, was read. This memoir is based on the Roget, was read. This memoir is based on the experience of the Equitable Society. The paper is divided into tables subdivided into decades, but such is the irregularity, that unless reference be had to the doctrine of probabilities, no great dependence can be placed on it; allusion is likewise made to the Northampton tables, as well as to the methods of Gompertz and Mills. The decrements of life at every age, it was stated, succeed each other with great regularity. In the decade from ten years of age to twenty, the mortality was found to be 1/3 by the Northampton tables, and 1/3 by those of the Equitable.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

MR. HAMILTON, vice-president, in the chair. -Mr. Rosser exhibited a brass figure of a stag, having a strong spike rising from the back, in the possession of Mr. Wake, of Southampton, found about sixteen inches below the surface at Nevesting, near Redbridge, Hants. Mr. Rossome other officers of the Indian navy would see described it to be part of an ancient candle- But it is more valuable, as it fixes the rising of follow up the example that had been set before stick, and that the figure must have originally the star Sophis, or Syrius (the dog-star), at the them; in reference to which he had the au- stood on an artificial mound or other broad base, commencement of the mount Thoth in the

as the size of the spike adapted it to a large and weighty taper; the earliest candlesticks were not furnished with sockets, but the candles were stuck on spikes; and Mr. R. referred to three former exhibitions of similar articles .-Mr. Nichols communicated an account of two very fine tessellated pavements lately discovered in the triclinium and adjoining room of a Roman villa, near Bath, and which were found singularly covered with slabs of lias .- A further portion of the ' Life of Sir Peter Carew' was read, and the remainder postponed.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

On Thursday, the minutes of the last meeting were confirmed; and Lord Carrington, Mr. B. Bond Cabbell, and other members, elected. The paper read was by the Rev. Mr. Tomlinson, and related to a very important date in Egyptian antiquities. An inscription attached to an astronomical hieroglyph on the roof of the Memnonium, and confirmed by a like hieroglyph and inscription on a mummy-case, determines the date of that celebrated building to be of the period of Ramses the Great, and above 1400 years before the Christian era.

Egyptian calendar, and commences a year of in the design. Trees are very well repre- and advance the reputation of art in this king- 365 (not 360) days, at so precise a time as to sented; but their colour, as it seems, hinders dom, to offer to the public, through the medium enable us to determine a certain point of chronology within the brief space of four years, from which many other historical events may with accuracy be calculated. From the zodiacs figured, and referred to by Biot, Burton, and others, Mr. Tomlinson shewed that the Greeks had changed the Egyptian forms to those we now see; the elder zodiacs having tortoises, alligators, &c., as signs. This discovery, if the inscription can be entirely depended upon, is of great importance to the Egyptian antiquary.

LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

Tuesday.—Linnean, 2 p.m.; Horticultural, 3 p.m.; Civit Engineers, 7 p.m. (Anniversary); Electrical. Wednesday.— Society of Arts, 7 p.m.; Medico-Botani-cal, 8 p.m. (Anniversary); Medico-Botanical Anniversary, Election of Officers, &c. Thursday.—Royal Society, 8 p.m.; Antiquaries, 8 p.m. Friday.—Royal Institution, 8 p.m.; Botanical, 8 p.m. Saturday.—Royal Asiatic, 2 p.m.

FINE ARTS.

THE DAGUEROTYPE.

Paris, 6th January, 1839. WE have much pleasure in announcing an important discovery made by M. Daguerre, the celebrated painter of the Diorama. This discovery seems like a prodigy. It disconcerts all the theories of science in light and optics, and, if borne out, promises to make a revolution in the arts of design.

M. Daguerre has discovered a method to fix the images which are represented at the back of a camera obscura; so that these images are not the temporary reflection of object, but their fixed and durable impress, which may be re-moved from the presence of those objects like a

picture or an engraving.

Let our readers fancy the fidelity of the image of nature figured by the camera obscura, and add to it an action of the solar rays which fixes this image, with all its gradations of lights, shadows, and middle tints, and they will have an idea of the beautiful designs, with a sight of which M. Daguerre has gratified our curiosity. M. Daguerre cannot act on paper; he requires a plate of polished metal. It was on copper that we saw several points of the Boulevards, Pont Marie, and the environs, and many other spots, given with a truth which Nature alone can give to her works. M. Da-guerre shews you the plain plate of copper: he places is, in your presence, in his apparatus, and, in three minutes, if there is a bright summer sun, and a few more, if autumn or winter weaken the power of its beams, he takes cut the metal and shews it to you, covered with a charming design representing the object towards which the apparatus was turned. Nothing remains but a short mechanical operation-of washing, I believe-and the design, which has been obtained in so few moments, remains unalterably fixed, so that the hottest sun cannot destroy it.

Messrs. Arago, Biot, and Von Humboldt, have ascertained the reality of this discovery. which excited their admiration; and M. Arago will, in a few days, make it known to the

Academy of Sciences.

I add some further particulars. Nature in motion cannot be represented, or at least not without great difficulty, by the process in question. In one of the views of the Boulevards, of which I have spoken, all that was walking or moving does not appear in the design; of two horses in a hackney coach on the of the fine arts, who has, for upwards of forty stand, one unluckily moved its head during the years, endeavoured, by all the means in his short operation; the animal is without a head power, to assist the exertions of British artists, yours, &c.,

are finished, the houses are too much so.

apparatus, and bring back views of the finest monuments, and of the most delightful scenery of the whole world. They will see how far their pencils and brushes are from the truth of the Daguerotype. Let not the draughtsman and the painter, however, despair - the results obtained by M. Daguerre are very different from their works, and, in many cases, cannot be a substitute for them. The effects of this new process have some resemblance to line engraving and mezzotinto, but are much nearer to the latter: as for truth, they surpass every thing.

I have spoken of the discovery only as it regards art. If what I have heard is correct, M. Daguerre's discovery tends to nothing less than a new theory on an important branch of ago, by M. Nieps, of Chalons-sur-Saone; but in so imperfect a state, that it has cost him long and persevering labour to attain the object.

H. GAUCHERAUD.

[From the "Gasette de France," of January 6, 1839.] Previously to receiving the above, we had written the following paragraph.—Ed. L. G. Nature Painted by Herself.—A French

journal contains a remarkable account of experiments with the Camera Lucida, the result of which is the exact and actual preservation of the impressions reflected by natural images upon copper plates. What the process is we are not told, but, as far as we understand it, by exposing the copper to these reflections, and imme-diately rubbing it over with a certain material. the likeness of whatever is so impressed is retained with perfect accuracy. Some difficul-ties occur where there is motion in the objects. whether animals, or leaves of trees stirred by the wind, &c.; but, if really true, this is a very extraordinary discovery for the fine arts Some of our readers may be aware that, some fourteen or fifteen years ago, Sir H. Davy and other scientific men amongst us, strenuously endeavoured to attain this desideratum; and by means of nitrate of silver, upon which light and shade produced certain effects, seemed to have all but accomplished their end. It was not however complete; for the changes in colour were too evanescent to admit of permanent fixture. We shall be glad to find the French experimenters more successful.

ENGRAVING.

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

Str, - Perhaps you will allow an old amateur

the solar rays from producing their image as of your valuable Gazette, a few remarks upon quickly as that of houses, and other objects of the taste of the present day, with respect to a different colour. This causes a difficulty for engravings. My collection is arranged chrono. landscape, because there is a certain fixed point logically—an arrangement which has the effect of perfection for trees, and another for all of shewing the state of the art in every year, objects the colours of which are not green. I have been looking over it lately, and while The consequence is, that when the houses are prepared to admit the superiority of some few finished, the trees are not, and when the trees productions of the last three or four years, it strikes me forcibly that, in a general point of Inanimate nature, architecture, are the tri- view, the art of engraving is not so well supumph of the apparatus which M. Daguerre means ported as it was twenty or thirty years ago. I to call after his own name _ Daguerotype. A dead ascribe this circumstance to the rage existing spider, seen in the solar microscope, is finished for pretty prints; nature is sacrificed in order with such detail in the design, that you may that young ladies may have nice looking things study its anatomy, with or without a magnify- for their albums. I do not think we are defiing glass, as if it were nature itself; not a fibre, cient of talent, indeed, Mr. Doo has just given not a nerve, but you may trace and examine. us a proof of his surpassing abilities,—but the For a few hundred francs travellers may, perhaps, be soon able to procure M. Daguerre's ragement it deserves. We have no Strange, no Woollet - at least, no engravings in the styles of these great masters have been given to the world; but we have hosts of fancy bits sold at per dozen, which only deserve to be carted away as so much rubbish; and we have also the most charming landscapes to look at, but, unfortu-nately, they are like nothing upon the face of this earth. In the topographical engravings published formerly, the buildings had the appearance of being made of stone or bricks, but now we have buildings of silk and satin, trees of velvet, and skies of a softness and brilliancy surpassing those of Italy, above the Tower of London and St. Paul's! For fancy subjects, I am surprised that the style of Bartolozzi is not imitated; for that great master is science. M. D. generously owns that the first certainly unrivalled for the grace, purity, and idea of his process was given him, fifteen years simple elegance, of his treatment of such subjects; the horrible taste which prevailed for a time of printing in red ruined some of his finest historical works; but those who possess proofs in black of such of his productions, have perfect treasures. It is a pity that Bartolozzi did not devote more of his attention to a higher branch of art than fancy subjects. I have copies of his Holy Family after Del Sarto _ a glorious work of genius; the divine expression of the painter being perfectly imitated by the engraver. I think this one of the finest groups of the Holy Family that has ever been produced. It is a pity that steel engraving was not produced in Bartolozzi's time. Caroline Watson, who flourished during part of the reign of George the Third, contributed some splendid things to our treasures of art: her "On Earth Peace," after Raffaelle's picture, in the collection of the Marquess of Bute, is an exquisite gem. We have more mezzotinto engravings now than we had formerly; and in this branch of the art a great improvement is visible: from Earlom to Cousins, the leap is great indeed. It does not appear to me that we lack talent; on the contrary, I think we have more talent than we ever possessed; but it is not called into play properly. If the patrons of art would give more encouragement than they do to great works, whenever they are produced, and less to the trifling things, which are cheap, we should soon observe a great improvement in this respect. I will not trespass further upon your time, Mr. Editor, but leave these hasty remarks for the consideration of the noblemen and gentlemen, upon whom the arts depend for protection. And with admiration of the enlightened opinions you have ever expressed in your columns of new engravings, and the steady support you give to the cause of art, allow me to subscribe myself,

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GRAPHIC SOCIETY.

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THE first meeting of this Society, on Wednesday evening, was an auspicious commencement It was numerously attended by members and their friends; and the treat afforded by the numerous and beautiful works of art greatly interested us. Beside the richly furnished folios of drawings contributed by Mr. Windess, Mr. Wadmore, and other amateurs and collectors, there were a folio of drawings of Alpine scenery, by Mr. Brockedon; a folio of beautiful sketches, by Mr. George Barnard, made in a recent tour chiefly on the coast of Genoa; and some fine studies from nature, by Sydney Cooper and by Mr. Lance. But, to us, the most interesting set of sketches exhibited were those by Dr. Holroyd who has just returned from his travels in Nubia. He ascended the Nile to Sennaar, and has returned from a line of route hitherto untravelled by an Englishman, and has made drawings of pyramids, temples, and rains of high antiquity; of costume, arms, implements, &c. &c., which will greatly extend our knowledge of countries so little known, and of people and places unknown until Dr. Hol-

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

A New Series of Designs for Ornamental Cot-tages and Villas. By P. F. Robinson, Architect, F.A.S. F.G.S. &c. Fifty-six Plates. The Landscapes drawn on Stone by J. D.

Harding and T. Allom. Bohn.

In his prefatory address, Mr. Robinson says,

"My former work on 'Rural Architecture' having passed through four editions, and having been generally received with much favour, I am induced to publish a new series, consisting of buildings already executed or now alterations made in old buildings; and it may be observed, that good effects are frequently produced by such alterations, at a very moderate expense, and that cottages especially may be rendered attractive by a judicious improvement of the form, as regards doors, windows, and chimneys. This, however, requires the hand of experience, and cannot be effected by a mere workman. It is like the last touches given to a picture by the hand of the master, and requires delicacy and feeling in the appli-cation. The improvement which has taken place during the last ten years in our rural architecture is very evident; and it is pleasing to observe the interest which this humble but attractive pursuit excites. When good effects can be produced at a moderate expense, and the scenery of our native country embellished by improving the condition of the peasantry, the work may be considered truly national."

enhanced by the accompanying estimates of the probable cost of erecting them. We were binson says that it might be erected for 100%, or, beings in this and the neighbouring island, who are living in buildings in the erection of which not a tenth part of that sum has been ex-

The Musical Bijou; an Album of Music and

truth, light music of every kind, abounds in this nicely arranged volume; almost all the popular composers of the day have contributed a portion of this varied tome.

Grand Fantasia for the Piano-forte, introducing favourite Airs from Rossini's celebrated Opera of "Guillaume Tell." Composed by Sigis-

mond Thalberg. D'Almaine and Co.
The opera of "Guillaume Tell" is so deservedly admired, and Thalberg so highly appreciated by every lover of music, that we need scarcely say, the best airs of the composer are, by the masterly hand of the arranger, rendered brilliantly effective in this piece.

Love came to our Gate. Sung by Miss Rainforth.—In Summer's Cot. Sung by Miss P. Horton ._ To the Merry Greenwood. Sung by Mr. Frazer.— The Cup of Peace. Sung by Miss Rainforth and Miss P. Horton. At the Theatre Royal, Covent Garden, in the Opera of "The Foresters." The Music by E. T. Loder. D'Almaine and Co.

In our somewhat unfavourable notice of the opera of " The Foresters," we mentioned Mr. royd's journey, which has extended to 2500 Inder's music as being a pleasant relief to the miles above Cairo. the selection now before us, we may say, they will be found equally agreeable for private singing. The last-named duettino, more particularly, from its wild simplicity, must be listened to with delight, when and wherever it is sung.

A te Canto Anima Bella. Written and Com-posed by Guido Sorelli, Esq.; Arranged for the Piano-forte by Edward Solomon, Esq.

A MOST sweet and graceful composition, but it is too short; another verse would be a decided improvement. We seldom have to complain of not having enough; in this case we would hint in progress. Two of these designs arise from that there is sufficient room on the wide margin for another printed verse.

Offspring Brightest. The Words by Guido Sorelli, Esq.; the Music by Charles Soloman,

WE do not admire Mr. Sorelli quite so much in English; in truth we are somewhat puzzled to find out what the words mean. The music is pretty enough.

Oh Avventissima. Words and Melody by Guido Sorelli; Arranged by Charles Soloman, Esq. THE air of this is pretty, and well suited to the words.

DRAMA.

THERE are no dramatic novelties this week, and we have only to warn our readers that the Haymarket closes in three days.

VARIETIES.

work may be considered truly national."

H. B.—The more rife the political turmoil,
The value of these pleasing designs is much the more material for the humour of the caricaturist; and so it was not to be expected as the meeting of parliament drew near that much amused with "the smallest building in "H. R.'s "pencil would be idle. Two novel-which a human being could be placed." Mr. Ro-ties (Nos. 566 and 7), full of figures, have just binson says that it might be erected for 100%, or, under favourable circumstances, for something The first is "Another Peep into the Playless. We fear there are thousands of human ground."—"You're none of my child:" every body disclaiming Lord Durham. On one side, Lord Melbourne is shouldering him off, backed by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, pended. But, then, to be sure, they are not the Secretary of State, &c.; while on the "ornamental." meet him; with Wellington, Brougham, Peel, MUSIC.

and Lyndhurst, looking on in admirable the Musical Bijou; an Album of Music and Poetry, for 1839. Edited by F. H. Burney. Lord Durham's scowl askance at the first welcomed by us, as a fellow-labourer in lite-D'Almaine and Co. lord is also in capital style, and forbodes the rature. The papers under the signature of sones, duets, quadrilles, waltzes (and by coming storm. The other piece is a "Coach An Old Bookseller, possess a good fifty years"

Strauss, too), pieces, a march, cachucha, and, in | Dinner; Castle Inn, Windsor:" the present ministers seated at table devouring a large dish of "salery," O'Connell as their driver declaring that he would not turn out. On the other hand, the opposition are just entering the door from a cold ride, and the landlord, John Bull, with the Queen at his elbow, is bidding the party at table make room for those hungry travellers who are waiting for their places. There are nearly twenty characters in this very clever and amusing performance.

The Antarctic Expedition .- We rejoice to find that progress is making in the arrangements for this interesting expedition, so warmly recommended from the British Association at Newcastle. The scientific committee appointed to that effect have seen the government authorities, and, we believe, the necessary measures

have been agreed upon.

Metropolitan Literary and Scientific Institution .- We are well pleased to observe that a liberal and well-arranged institution has been opened, under the above title, in that spacious mansion known by the name of Salvador House, Bishopsgate Street. A very brilliant and interesting conversazione took place on the occasion, Thursday, the 3d, when Chalon's original portrait of the Queen, and a portrait of Grace Darling, by a north-country artist, were exhibited by Mr. Moon. The president, Mr. Thos. Bell, delivered an excellent address on the benefits to be derived from such associations, in all the praise of which we cordially agree. "The Times" newspaper observes, "It is situate in a locality where such an institution was much needed; and, as it contains reading and news-rooms which are open from eight in the morning till eleven at night, we have no doubt it will be found of great utility to the inhabitants of the city, especially as the news-room is well supplied with the morning and evening papers, and the reading-room with the quarterly, monthly, and weekly periodicals, and various pamphlets. The syllabus of the lectures for the current half-year is issued among them-we notice some of great interest. A library of circulation and reference is attached to the institution, which appears to have been carefully selected, and contains copies of most of our standard works. We understand that classes for the study of languages, music, drawing, &c. are in progress of formation. We sincerely hope the institution will meet with the encouragement it deserves, and that it will be eminently useful in diffusing useful knowledge among mankind."

Animal Magnetism. — Dr. Elliotson has re-

signed his professorship at the London University, in consequence of the authorities discharging Miss Okey, and interfering with his magnetic experiments. Miss Okey, it is stated, had pretended to new inspirations and powers, in consequence of which, being taken to the bedsides of the sick in the wards, she could foretell their death or recovery. In the former case she pronounced the fatal doom by saying that Great Jackey had got them (a new and familiar name for the Angel of Death); and in the latter event that only Little Jackey had obtained possession. A majority of the medical pupils, it is said, are irate at the exit of Dr. Elliotson, whose Mesmerism was, at any rate, a source of curious amusement, and who in other respects was well calculated to be

a favourite with his class.

The Aldine Magazine, Part I., containing

interest for all literary people; but the plan is altogether praiseworthy for its original features, and the contents generally are very amusing. There is a mistake in the suppo sition that Canning, as well as Chateaubriand, had been aided by the Literary Fund. M. Chateaubriand acknowledged the obligation at an anniversary where Mr. Canning presided, and most liberally subscribed to the society.

The Funnyshire For (W. Spooner) is a new tee-totum game, like the game of goose, &c., which Mr. Spooner has ingeniously invented as a change of amusements for the juveniles at this It seems well devised to interest season. them, and the sport is full of incidents to retard

or throw out the keenest hand.

The Game of the Golden Eagle is another nice game with cards and pictures, to teach the elements of natural history as applicable to British diurnal birds of prey.

Teachem's Scientific Games: Astronomy A play with cards and question and answers, and intended to inculcate a knowledge of the celestial sphere. Young folks are indebted to the same publisher for this agreeable induction

into the paths of science.

An Index Geológical Map of the British
Isles. By J. Phillips, F.R.S., G.S., &c. (London, J. Weale.) ... An admirable and useful production. It is an index to every geological paper connected with the pursuit of the science.

and with mining and other important subjects in England. The distinctions of colour and shading, to mark the formations, is new to us,

and most highly approved.

An Illustrated Chart of English History from Egbert to Victoria. By L. Gordon. (London, J. Souter.)—This is one of the nice Christmas productions for deserving youngsters: a roll on which the history of England is neatly pictured, and the descent of the crown chronologically traced, in a manner likely to make an impression on their mind. A descriptive volume of sixty pages accompanies and explains Owing to an error in printing, the death of Charles I. (at p. 30), is dated 1608; greater care should be taken with works of instruction.

A Catalogue of London Periodicals, with their Prices, &c. &c. (London, Longman.)—An exceedingly useful broadside. For London, as well as provincial booksellers, stationers, and newsvenders, it is a sheet of indispensable in-

formation.

Dearden's Miscellany, No. I. (London. Orr; Nottingham, Dearden.)—A very pleasing, provincial, literary miscellany; with a superior choice of subjects, and a fair portion of

talent in the general execution.

Heads of the People, No. III. (London, Tyas.) — This periodical goes on drawing characters with considerable telent. The present No. contains "the Spoilt Child," "the Old No. contains "the Spoilt Chua, Lord," "the Beadle of the Parish," and (the best) " the Linendraper's Assistant." pertinacity of these gentry is illustrated by an anecdote declared to be literally true, viz. that it was the rule in one shop to discharge any shopman who suffered a customer to depart without buying something!

The Social Gazette (No. I.) is acknowledged Its seeking to be useful, and its appeal to the parochial clergy, guardians of the poor, &c. &c.

seem to be very commendable.

The Weather in the Far West.—A traveller in the Knickerbocker steamer on the Mississippi writes, that they had been contending for some days with large masses of floating ice; and now, says he, "we are (Nov. 17) firmly imbedded in the middle of the river, with provisions and fuel failing, and all methods

to move the vessel unavailing." In this dilemma the writer ludicrously describes the gradual disappearance of the ship's stores. The Dutch steward, on being asked by a pass-enger for some butter, replies, "De putter! he peen all gon;" and on further being desired to bring a lady a cup of tea, despondingly says, "De dee! she peen all trunk up." However, the Knickerbocker finally escapes. Cold com-fort this in the early part of November. We ought not to grudge Mr. Murphy a few frosty

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

The Boy's Country-Book, being the Real Life of a Country Boy, edited by W. Howitt, Lcap 3vo. with Woodcuts, 8s.— Love's Exchange; a Tale, by C. J. Boyle, 3 vols, post 8vo. 3ls. 6d.— Historical Records of the British Army: the First, or Royal Regiment of Foot, 3vo. 12s.— Godethe's Faust, translated into English Proce, by A. Hayward, 3d edition, Lcap, 8s.— The History of Egypt under the Ptolemies, by Samuel Sharpe, 4to. 3v. 6d.— The Life of Thomas Reynolds, by his Son, 2 vols, 8vo. 30s.— The Book of Fables, square, 1. 6d.— Thistlethwaite's Sermons for Cantily Schools, with a Life, 27mo. 10s.— Farochial Ministrations, by the Hon. and Flamo. 3s.— Farochial Ministrations, by the Hon. and Learnenisement, 8s.— 3s.— Incidents of Travel in Greece, Turkey, Russia, and Poland, by J. G. Stephens, fcap, 7s. 6d.— Recollections of Ireland, 18mo. 3s.— Father Butler, by W. Carleton, Lcap, 3s. 6d.— The Luions' and Parsish Officers' Vear-Book, 1839, 19mo. 3s. 6d.

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METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1839.

January.	The	Thermometer.				Barometer.		
Thursday 3	From	38	to	48	29.89	to	29.62	
Friday 4		39		45	29.48		29.64	
Saturday 5	****	30		40	29.64		29.51	
Sunday 6		29		48	29.60		29-20	
Monday 7	****	43		45	29.00		29:20	
Tuesday B		30		39	29-38		29.49	
Wednesday 9	1	30		34	29.55		29-88	
Winds, S.W.	and S.E.							

Except the 5th and 9th, generally cloudy; rain fell on the 4th; snow and rain on the 6th, and two following

Rain fallen, '43 of an inch.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS. Latitude · · · · 51° 37′ 32″ N.
Longitude · · · 3 51 W. of Greenwich.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We thank "A Lover of British Art" for his suggestions. We fear, however, that any attempt to carry it into effect would be productive of at least as much delusion as truth, besides being liable to other objections.

"The Cheltenham Looker-On," a very model journal for a fashionable watering-place, has commenced its third series with unflagging spirit; and we have to thank its conductors for No. I.

The editor of the "Veterinarian" has our thanks for his No. for the new year, which contains so much valuable.

The entor of the 'vectoriarian has our thinnes to his No for the new year, which contains so much valuable matter on the subjects to which it is directed.

The limes of "k——ly" are declined; we are, indeed, indisposed to adult any poems upon this deplocable event, which, as yet, time has not divested of any of its distress-which, as yet, time has not divested of any of its distress-

ing features.
The same answer applies to J. S. H.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Connected with Literature and the Arts.

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The Courses of Instruction in Hebrew, the Oriental, and other Foreign Languages, will also be resumed.

Givil Engineering and Mining.—The Lectures in Chemistry will recommence on Monday, the 14th instant; and the other Lectures will be resumed on Wednesday, the 23d instant. Medical School.—The Spring Division of the Courses of Lectures will begin on Monday, the 21st instant. Junior Department.—The Classes in the School will be reported on Wednesday, the 23d of January, at Nine o'Ulock A.M. Jan. 5, 1829.

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